

#1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLING AUTHOR



BOOK THREE
THE CLOUD SEARCHERS

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Amulet

KAZU KIBUISHI

BOOK THREE
THE CLOUD SEARCHERS

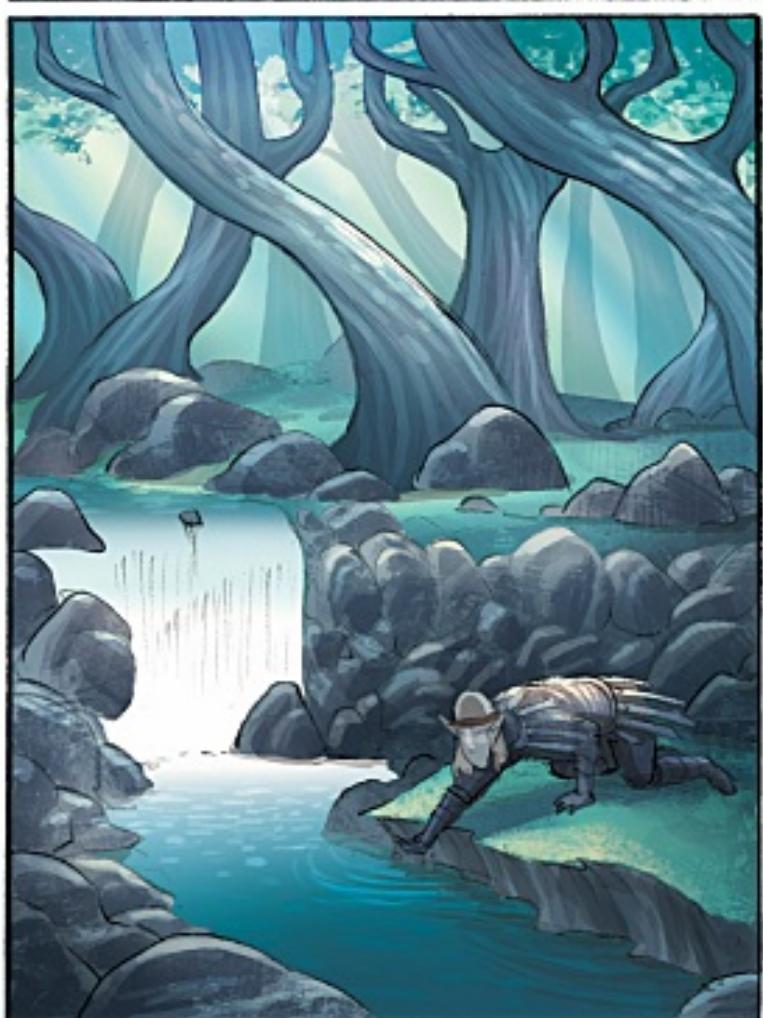


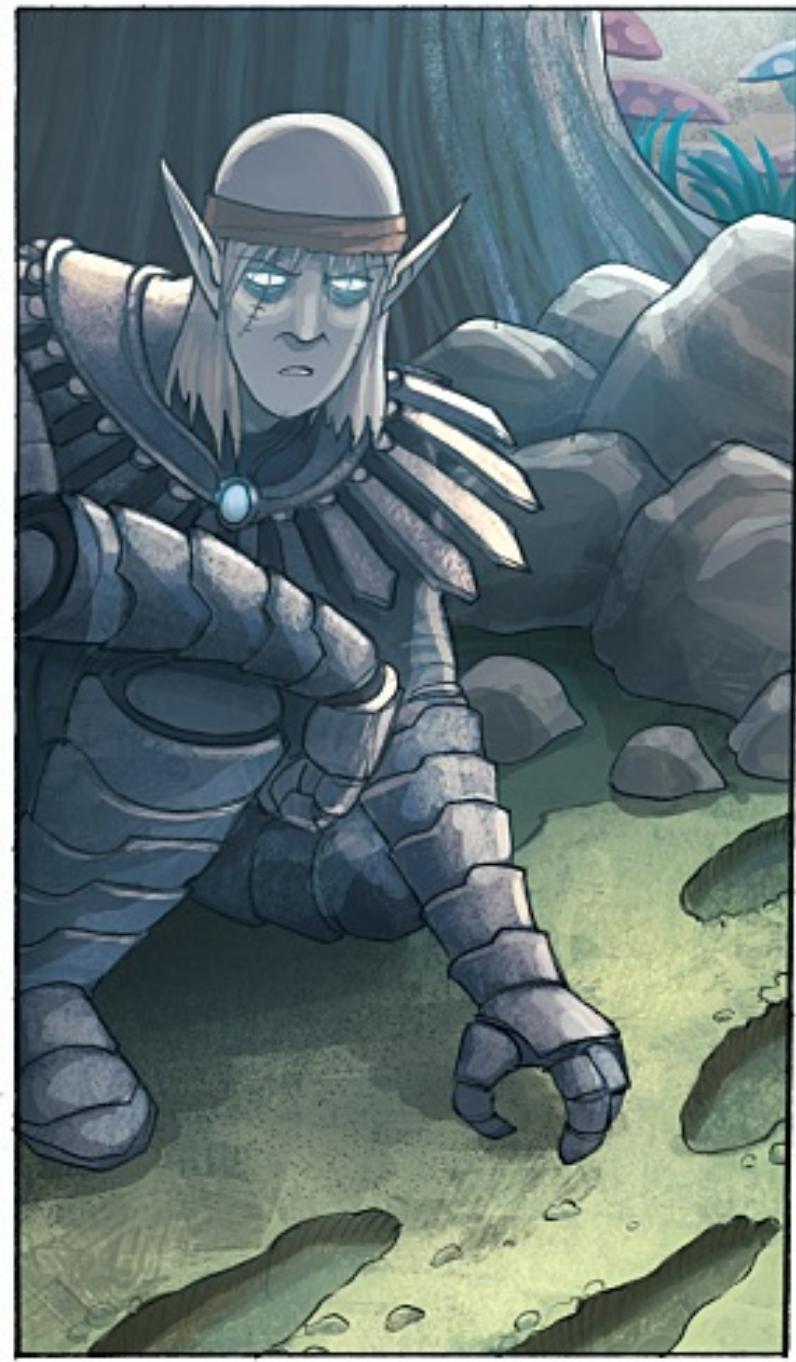
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LUGER.



TR-TRELLIS.



HAVE YOU
COME TO
FINISH ME
OFF?



I HAVE NO
INTENTION
OF KILLING
YOU.



LOOK.
I DESTROYED
THE STONE.







YOU HAVE FAILED
ME COUNTLESS TIMES,
AND YOU WILL FAIL
ME AGAIN.

WHAT MAKES
YOU BELIEVE I
WOULD GIVE YOU
MORE TIME?



WE'RE NOT
RETURNING
UNTIL WE
FINISH THE
JOB.

I WILL KILL
THE YOUNG
STONEKEEPER
MYSELF AND
BRING YOU
HER HEAD.



RETURN TO BASE
IMMEDIATELY.

NOT UNTIL
THE MISSION
IS COMPLETE.



RETURN
IMMEDIATELY
OR SUFFER THE
CONSEQUENCES.



I'M WARNING
YOU, TRELLIS.

CRUNCH!



I'M SICK
OF HEARING
HIS VOICE.

WHAT HAVE
YOU DONE?!

YOU'VE
SEALED OUR
FATE!



HE'LL KILL US
IF WE RETURN,

HE'LL KILL US
IF WE DON'T.

AT LEAST WE
HAVE A CHANCE OF
SURVIVING IF WE STAY
ON THE RUN.



THERE'S A
SMALL TOWN
JUST EAST
OF HERE.

WE NEED
TO GET YOU
SOME FOOD.

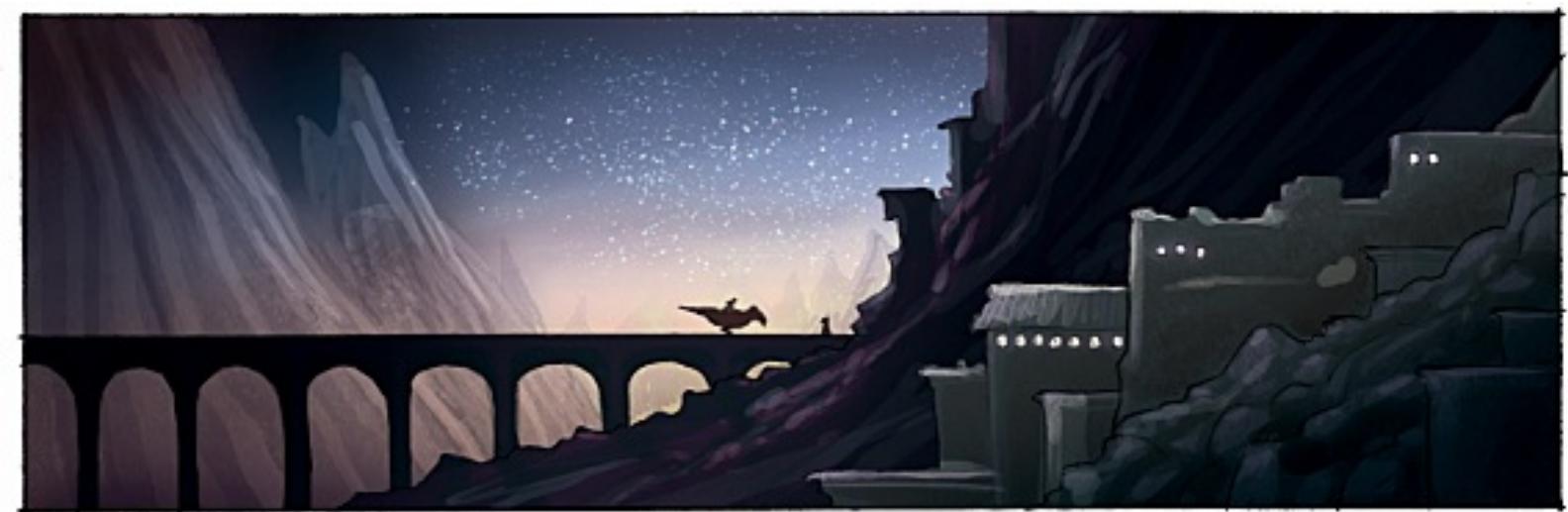


THEY'LL
FIND US
EASILY.



YOU NEED
FOOD AND
WATER.





YOU HAVE BEEN
INFORMED OF YOUR
TARGETS?

YES.

A YOUNG
FEMALE STONE-
KEEPER AND HER
COMPANIONS.

DESPITE FAIR
WARNING, HE HAS
CHOSEN TO BETRAY
ME AGAIN.

TREASON IS
PUNISHABLE
BY DEATH.

THERE IS
ONE MORE...

PRINCE
TRELLIS?

YOU ASK
ME TO KILL
YOUR SON?



I WILL DESTROY ANYONE AND ANYTHING THAT MAY IMPEDE OUR PROGRESS.

THINK OF IT AS A SACRIFICE FOR THE GREATER GOOD.



BETTER MEN
HAVE FAILED,
GABILAN.

SURPRISE
ME.

YOUR
PAYMENT,
SIR.

DO YOU ENJOY
WORKING FOR
YOUR MASTER,
DEAR LOGI?

IT IS NOT
ABOUT ENJOYMENT,
SIR. IT IS SIMPLY
SURVIVAL.

FOR MY
SERVICES, HE
ALLOWS ME
TO LIVE.

A MOST
UNFORTUNATE
ARRANGEMENT.
I PROMISE TO
OFFER YOU A
BETTER WAGE --



-- WHEN
I AM KING.







HEY
EMILY,
WILL THIS
DO?

COGSLEY SAYS
HE NEEDS THE
LEAFIEST BRANCHES
WE CAN FIND.

HEY
MOM,

LIKE
THIS!

HEY!
IS THAT A
CUT ON YOUR
HAND?

IT DOESN'T
HURT.

COME
HERE.
LET ME
LOOK AT
IT.

MOM, I'M
FINE.

YOU DON'T
WANT IT TO
GET INFECTED.



YOU HAVE TO
REMEMBER WE'RE
ON AN ALIEN
PLANET.

THERE ARE
ALL SORTS OF
STRANGE AND
DANGEROUS THINGS
AROUND US.



YEAH,
ISN'T IT
GREAT?



WE NEED TO
START HEADING
BACK.

LEON WANTS
TO BE ON THE
ROAD BEFORE
MIDDAY.



WHY ARE
WE LEAVING
THE HOUSE
BEHIND?

LEON SAYS
IT MAKES US
TOO EASY
TO TRACK.



WHY ARE WE
ALWAYS DOING
WHAT LEON
SAYS?



YOU KNOW
WHAT THEY SAY
ABOUT FOXES BEING
TRICKSTERS.

HE MIGHT
BE TROUBLE.



I TRUST
HIM, MOM.



COGSLEY,
THIS IS
IMPOSSIBLE!

THERE'S NO
WAY WE CAN
HIDE IT!

WE HAVE
TO TRY,
MISKIT!

WE CAN'T
JUST LEAVE
HER OUT IN
THE OPEN!



COGSLEY'S
TAKING THIS
PRETTY HARD.

WELL, HE
DID BUILD THE
HOUSE WITH
SILAS.
IT'S LIKE
HIS BABY.

WE'LL
COME BACK
FOR YOU!

SOB

WHERE'S
LEON?

LAST TIME I
SAW HIM, HE
WAS IN SILAS'S
LIBRARY.





I'VE BEEN
SEARCHING THESE
BOOKS ALL MORNING
AND I STILL CAN'T
FIND IT.

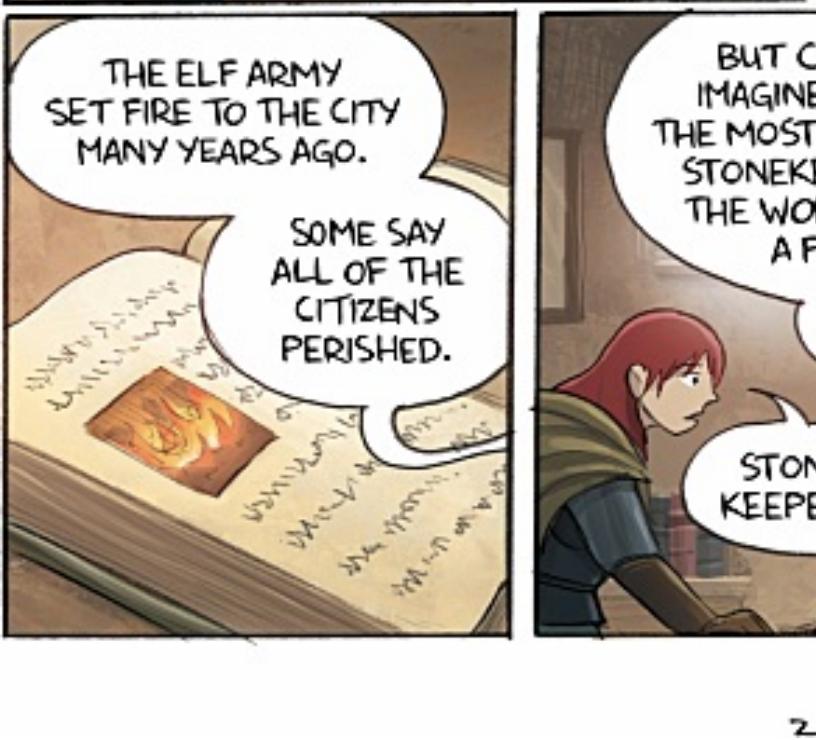
FIND
WHAT?



OUR DESTINATION.
MY JOB IS TO ESCORT
YOU TO THE CITY OF
CIELIS.



THERE'S ONLY
ONE PROBLEM.
THE CITY
DISAPPEARED.



THE ELF ARMY
SET FIRE TO THE CITY
MANY YEARS AGO.

SOME SAY
ALL OF THE
CITIZENS
PERISHED.



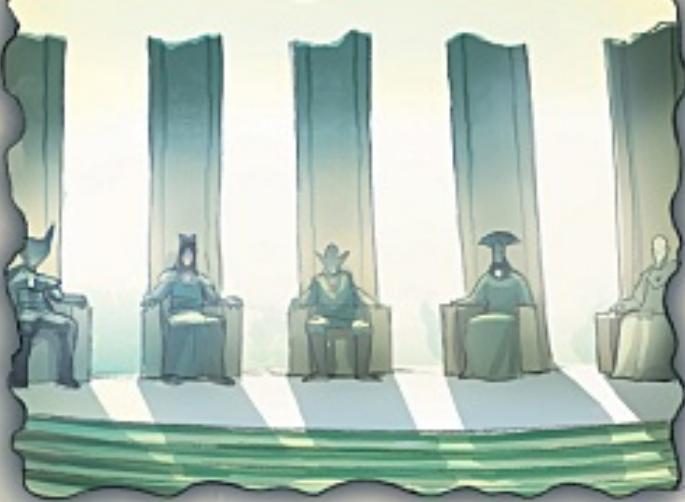
BUT CAN YOU
IMAGINE KILLING
THE MOST POWERFUL
STONEKEEPERS IN
THE WORLD WITH
A FIRE?

RIDICULOUS.

STONE-
KEEPERS?



THEY WERE
THE RULERS OF
ALLEDIA BEFORE
THE ELF KING
CAME TO POWER.



THE LEADERS OF THIS CITY CAME TO BE KNOWN AS THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.

THE FIVE GREAT STONEKEEPERS WHO COMPRISED THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL WERE CHOSEN TO GOVERN ALLEDIA. FOR MANY YEARS, THINGS WENT ACCORDING TO THEIR PLANS AND ALLEDIA BENEFITED FROM A CENTURY OF PEACE.

SO IT CAME AS A SURPRISE WHEN GULFEN, THE NATION OF ELVES, ROSE UP AND BEGAN INVADING ITS NEIGHBORS WITHOUT WARNING. WHAT WAS ONCE A PEACEFUL NATION HAD BECOME A RUTHLESS AGGRESSOR.

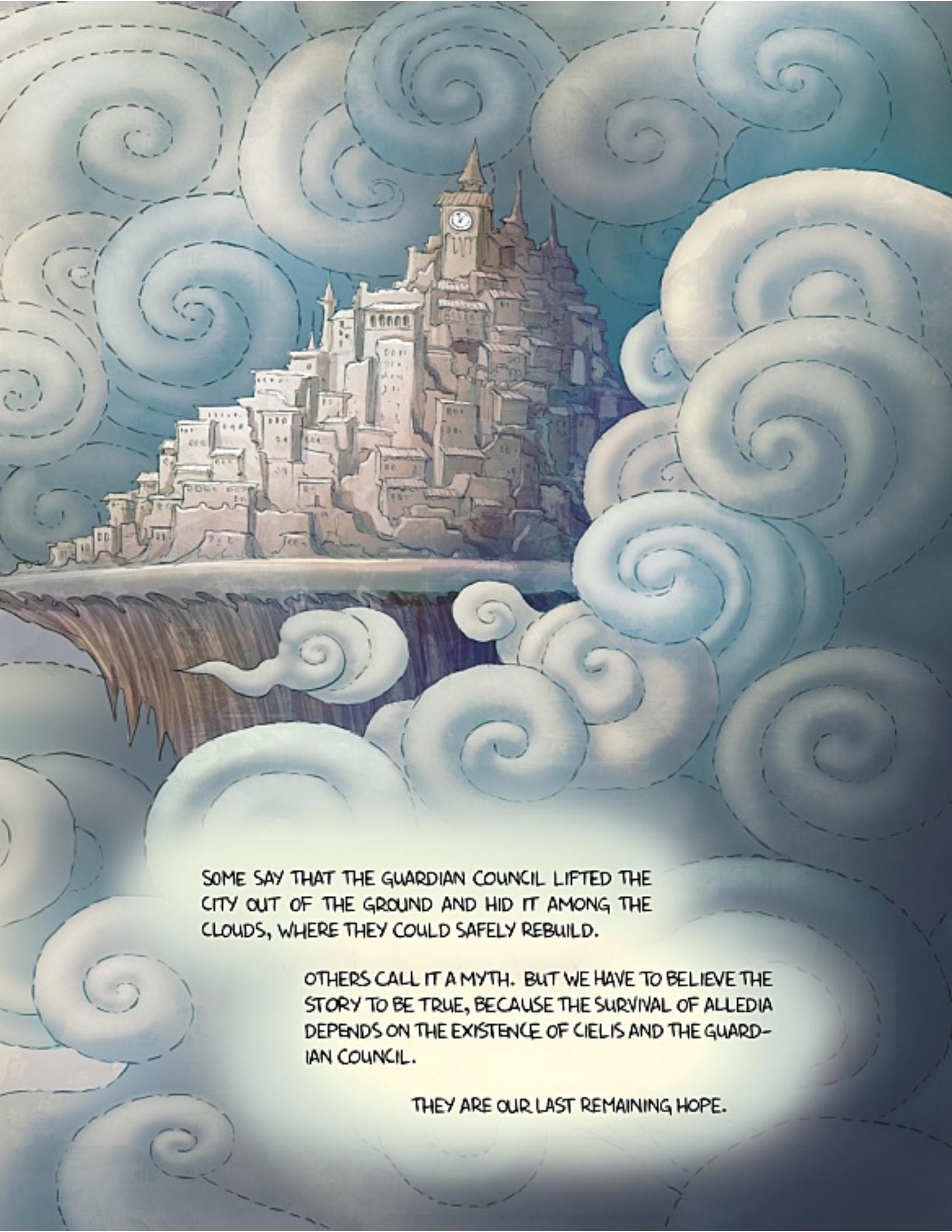
THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL RETALIATED, BUT THEY SEVERELY UNDERESTIMATED THE ELF KING'S POWER.



THE GREAT CITY OF CIELIS SUFFERED THE FIERCEST ATTACK DURING THE WAR. IN A BATTLE FOR THE THRONE OF ALLEDIA, THE ELVES BURNED MOST OF IT TO THE GROUND.

WHEN THE DUST CLEARED, ALL THAT WAS LEFT OF CIELIS WAS A GIANT CRATER.

MOST BELIEVE THAT THE PEOPLE OF CIELIS PERISHED IN THE FLAMES. BUT THERE ARE A FEW, LIKE THE RESISTANCE, WHO BELIEVE THE CITY STILL EXISTS INTACT.



SOME SAY THAT THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL LIFTED THE CITY OUT OF THE GROUND AND HID IT AMONG THE CLOUDS, WHERE THEY COULD SAFELY REBUILD.

OTHERS CALL IT A MYTH. BUT WE HAVE TO BELIEVE THE STORY TO BE TRUE, BECAUSE THE SURVIVAL OF ALLEDIA DEPENDS ON THE EXISTENCE OF CIELIS AND THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.

THEY ARE OUR LAST REMAINING HOPE.

EMILY,
DON'T LISTEN
TO HIM.

10

IF THAT'S TRUE,
THEN EXPLAIN
THIS.

CIELIS IS
DEAD.

SILAS SAID HE
SAW THE RUINS
WITH HIS OWN EYES
AND NOBODY WAS
SPARED.

YOU'RE
WASTING
YOUR TIME,
REDBEARD.

THESE ARE
SILAS'S NOTES.

POOMF!

IF SILAS
BELIEVED
CIELIS WAS
GONE --

-- WHY DID HE
SPEND SO MUCH
TIME LOOKING
FOR IT?

THE LAST NOTES
WERE TAKEN THE
WEEK HE PASSED
AWAY.



UNFORTUNATELY,
HE WAS UNABLE TO
COMPLETE HIS
SEARCH.



IF CIELIS IS
STILL AROUND, THEN
WHY HASN'T THE
GUARDIAN COUNCIL
CONTACTED ANY
OF US?

WHY HAVEN'T
THEY HELPED?



THAT I DON'T
KNOW.

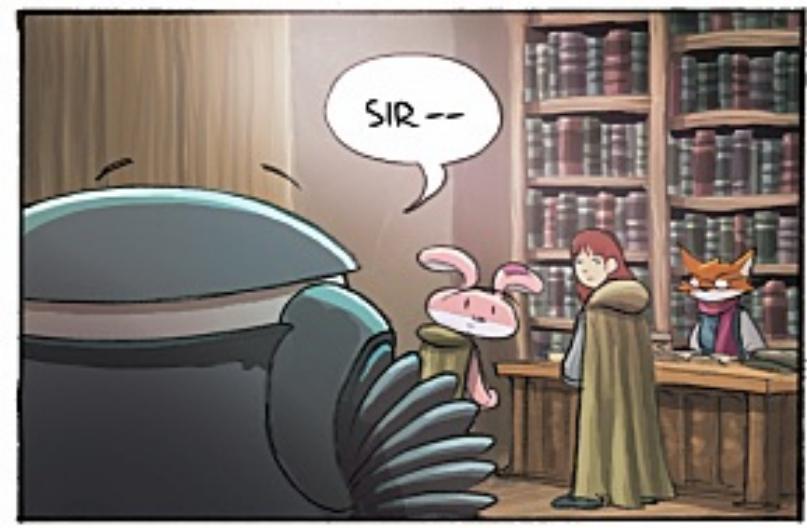


SO IF THEY
WON'T COME OUT
OF HIDING TO HELP
US NOW,

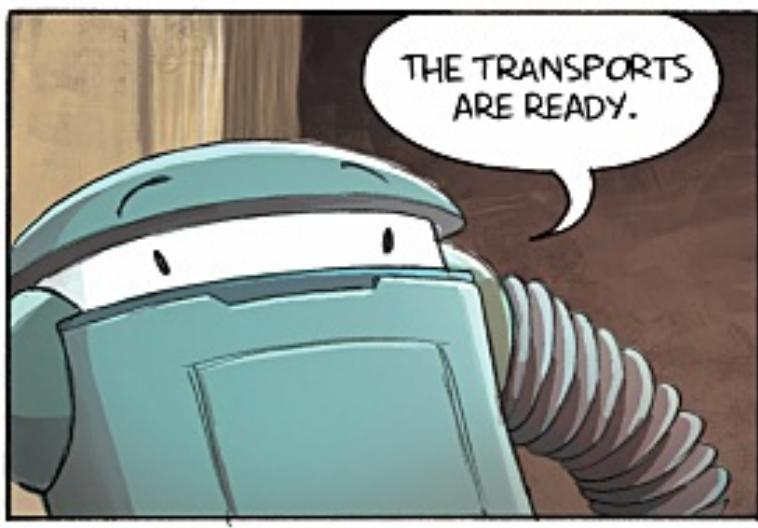
HOW CAN WE
EXPECT THEM TO
HELP US WHEN
WE FIND THEM?



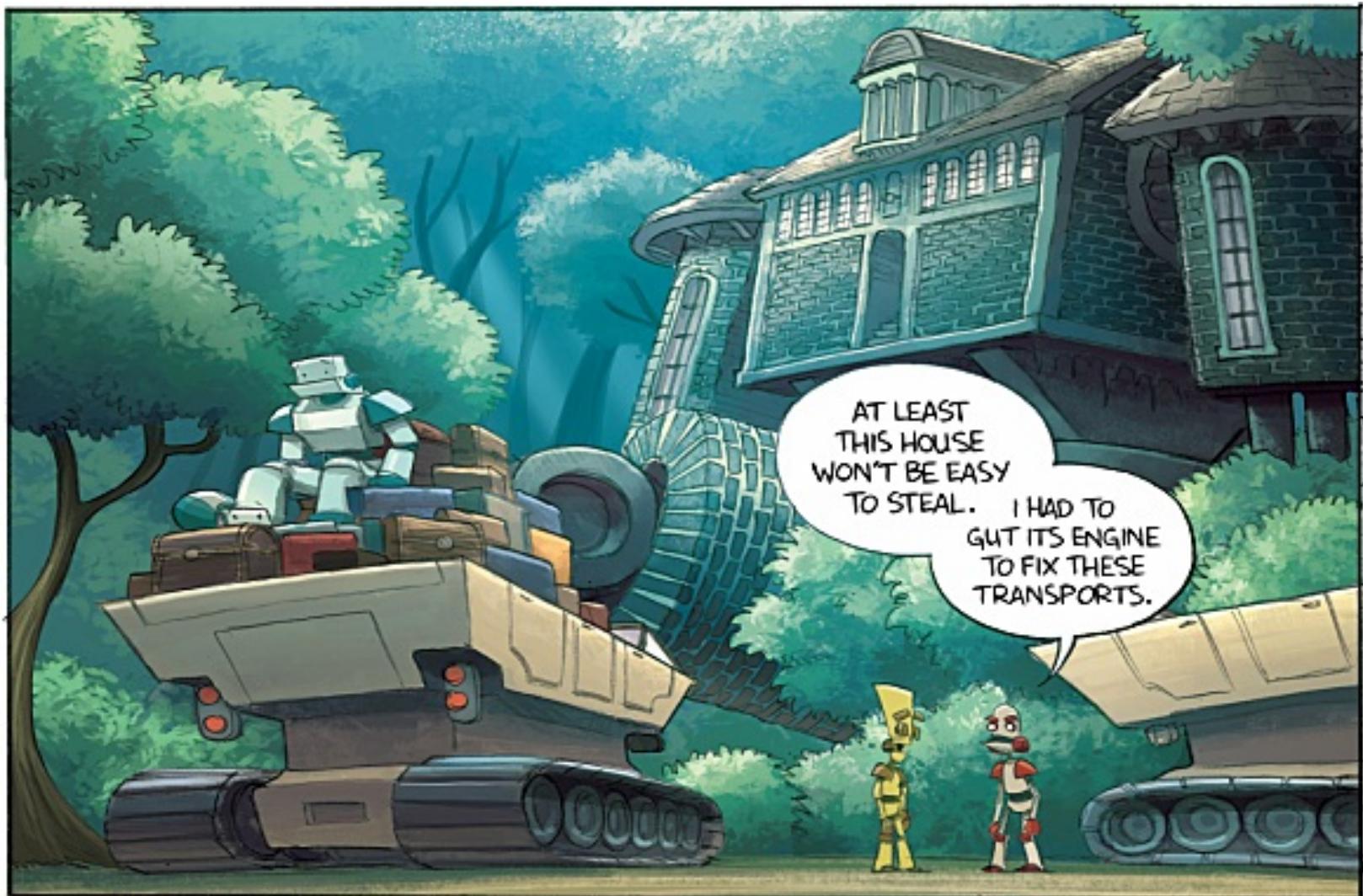
BECAUSE
THEY WILL
NEED US.



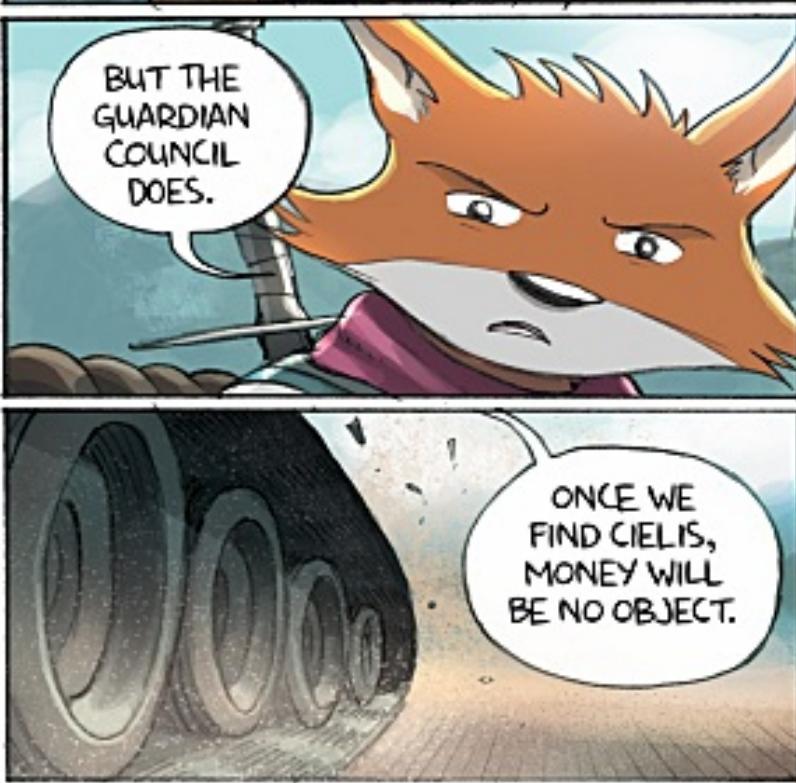
SIR --



THE TRANSPORTS
ARE READY.









NAUTILUS IS THE
SHIPPING CAPITAL
OF ALLEDIA.

MOST AIRSHIPS
DOCK HERE AT LEAST
ONCE A YEAR.



SINCE GAINING
POWER, THE ELVES
HAVE FORCED PILOTS
TO FLY FOR MUCH
LOWER WAGES
THAN THEY'RE
ACCUSTOMED TO.



IT'S AN
UNFORTUNATE
SITUATION, BUT ONE
THAT WORKS TO OUR
ADVANTAGE.









I KNOW WHERE
YOU'RE GOING WITH
THIS, AND FOR THE
LAST TIME, I SAID
I'M OVER IT!

BUT
ENZO --

WHAT IF
YOU'RE
RIGHT?

DID YOU
NOT HEAR ME,
BROTHER?

I SAID I'M
OVER IT!!

EXCUSE
ME --

WE ARE LOOKING
FOR PASSAGE TO
CIELIS.

CAN YOU
HELP US?

DO YOU EVEN
KNOW WHAT YOU'RE
ASKING, FRIEND?

THAT IS LIKE
ASKING TO BE TAKEN
TO HEAVEN.

MOST OF THESE
DIRTBAGS DON'T
BELIEVE IT EXISTS,
SO YOU'RE WASTING
YOUR TIME.

WHAT ABOUT
YOU?

DO YOU
BELIEVE
IT EXISTS?

WHAT I CHOOSE
TO BELIEVE IS
NONE OF YOUR
BUSINESS.

ENZO HAS
SEEN THE
FLYING CITY.

RICO!!

BUT IT'S
TRUE!

HE TALKS
ABOUT IT ALL
THE TIME.

CRAZY
OLD ENZO!
SEEING
GHOSTS, TOO,
I RECKON!

SHUT UP,
FRANCIE!
OR I'LL BUST
YOUR LIP!

JOIN US AND WE CAN FIND CIELIS TOGETHER.

I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO FIND THE FLYING CITY IN TEN YEARS OF SEARCHING!

WHAT MAKES YOU THINK YOU'LL FARE ANY BETTER?

BECAUSE WE HAVE A MAP.

IT'S INCOMPLETE BUT I THINK IT CAN LEAD US TO THE CITY'S LOCATION.

THESE ARE THE NOTES OF SILAS CHARNON.

HE WAS A STONEKEEPER AND FORMER MEMBER OF THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.

HE DIED BEFORE COMPLETING HIS GUIDE.

HMM.

IT SAYS HERE THAT WITHOUT A STONEKEEPER, YOU WON'T GAIN PASSAGE TO THE CITY.

SEEING AS YOUR FRIEND IS DEAD, THIS BOOK IS NOW USELESS.





HEY,
YOU.

TURN AND
FACE ME.

DID YOU
HEAR ME?

I SAID --

WE FOUND
THEM!

WE FOUND
THEM HIDING
IN THE BACK
ALLEY, ASLEEP.



PRINCE TRELLIS,
I KNOW YOU HAVE
ALWAYS HAD A
REBELLIOUS NATURE.

BUT WHAT
HAVE YOU DONE
TO DESERVE
THIS?



WHAT ACT OF
TREASON COMPELS
YOUR FATHER TO
HAVE US KILL
YOU?
WHAT
HAVE YOU
DONE?



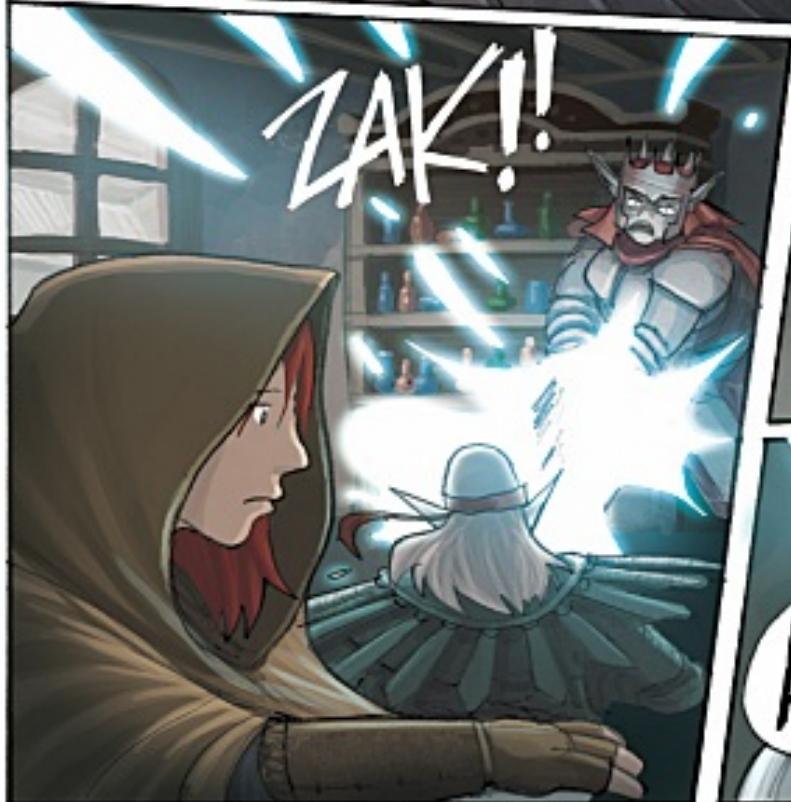
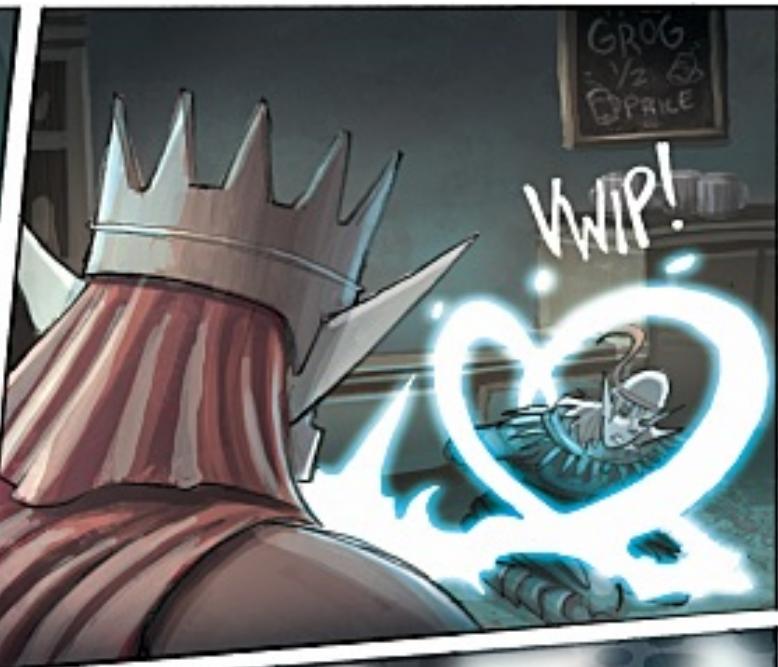
IT'S SIMPLE.
HE'S NOT
MY FATHER.



YOUR KING
IS DEAD!



AGH!!









NOW LOOK
AT THIS,
BOYS.

PRINCE TRELLIS
HAS A NEW
BODYGUARD!



HA!

DON'T MAKE
ME HURT
YOU.

YOU'RE
KIDDING,
RIGHT?



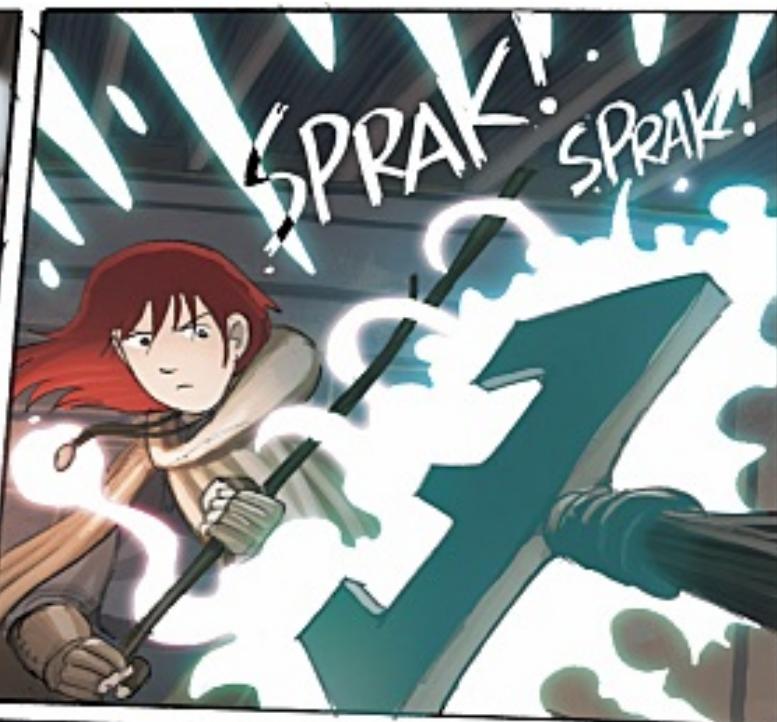
YOU'VE GOT
QUITE AN
ATTITUDE!

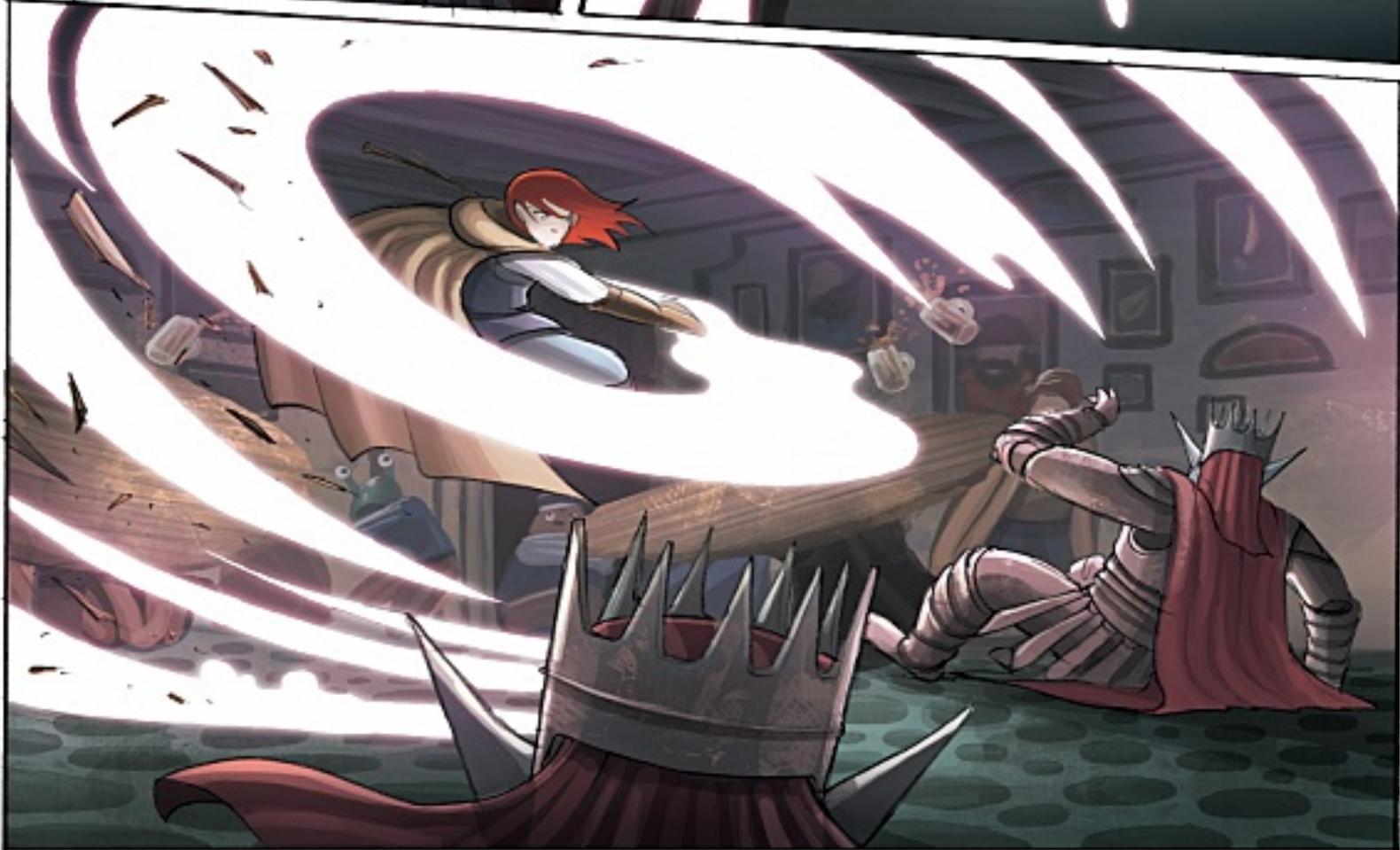
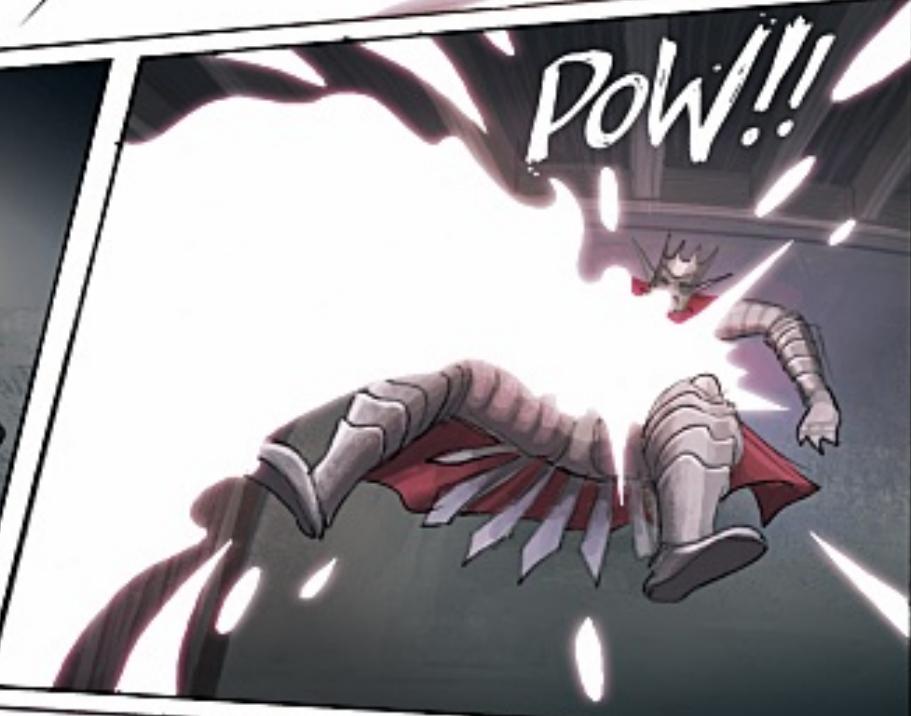


SOMEBODY
SHOULD TEACH
YOU SOME
MANNERS!



SHE'S A
STONEKEEPER!
WALRIG,
STUN HER!





No!!!



KBOOM



EMILY!



WELCOME
BACK, YOUNG
MASTER.

I WAS BEGINNING
TO THINK YOU WERE
GOING TO IGNORE
ME FOR GOOD.



CAPTAIN,
WE'RE GOING
TO NEED YOUR
HELP.

AND WE
DON'T HAVE
MUCH TIME.

YES, OF
COURSE.

OUR SHIP
IS AT THE
DOCK.



MISKIT, GET
EVERYONE INTO
THE TRANSPORT.



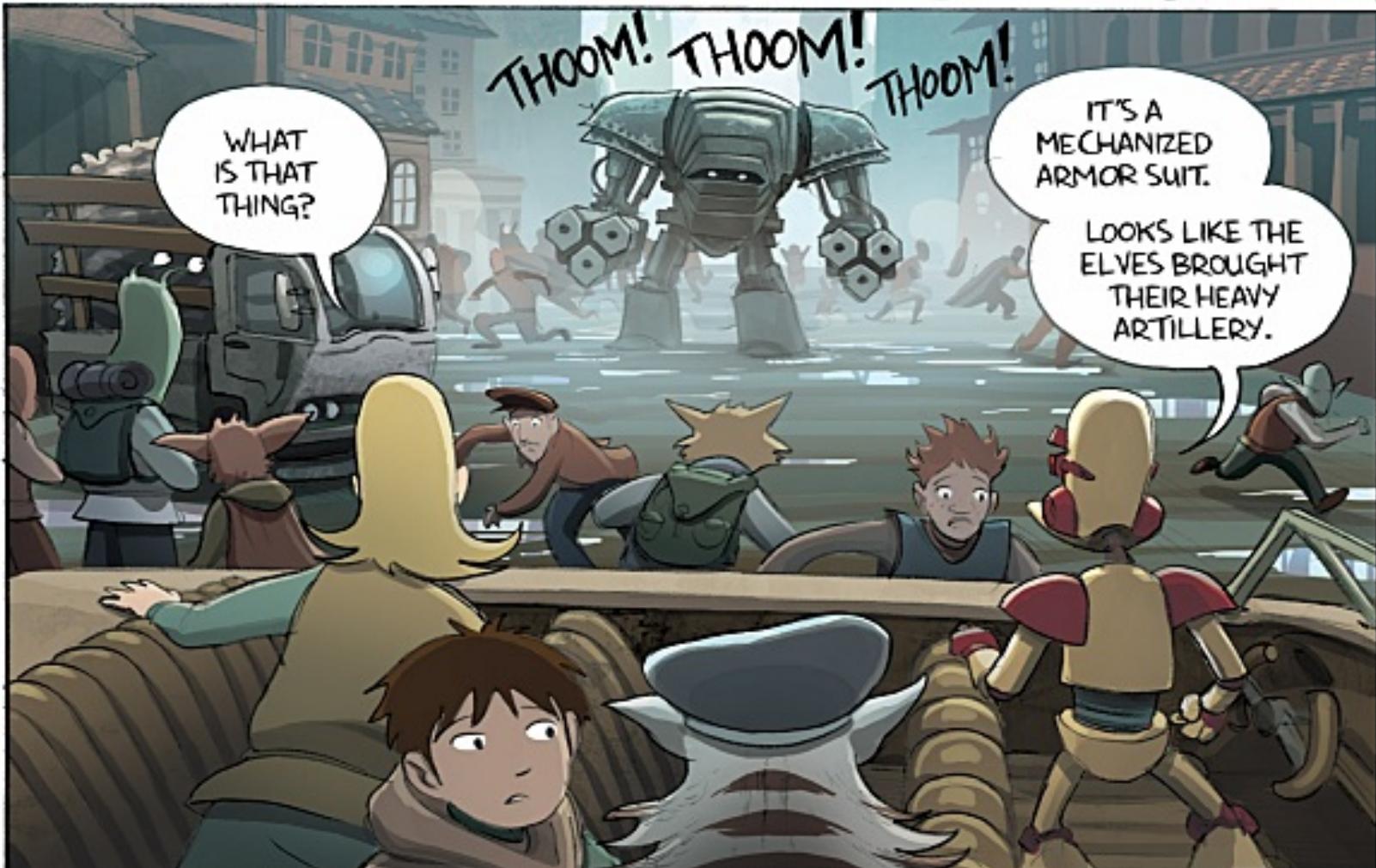
EVERYONE?
WHAT ABOUT
THEM?



YES.
BRING
THEM, TOO.

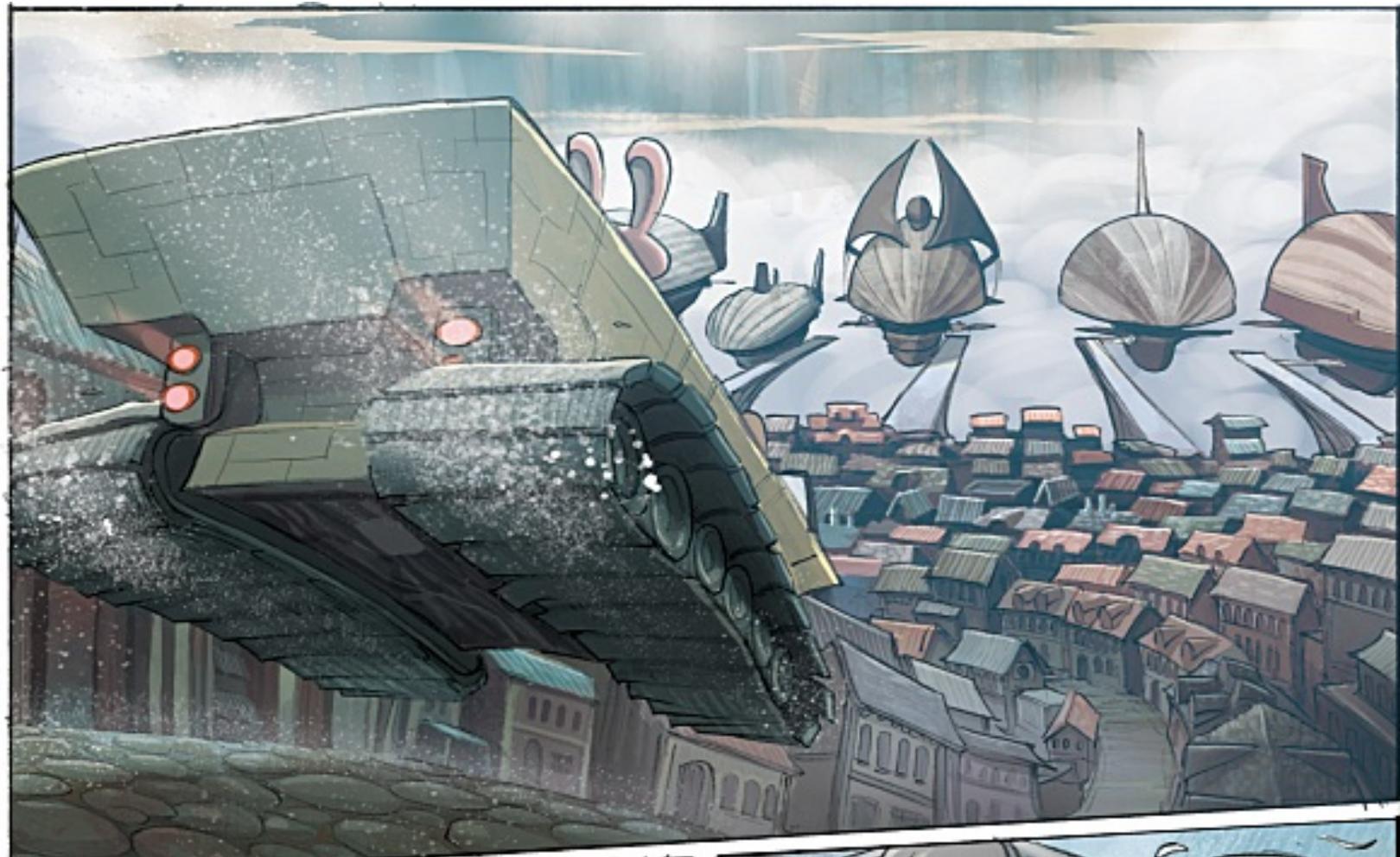


NOW HURRY
AND GET EVERY-
ONE OUTSIDE!







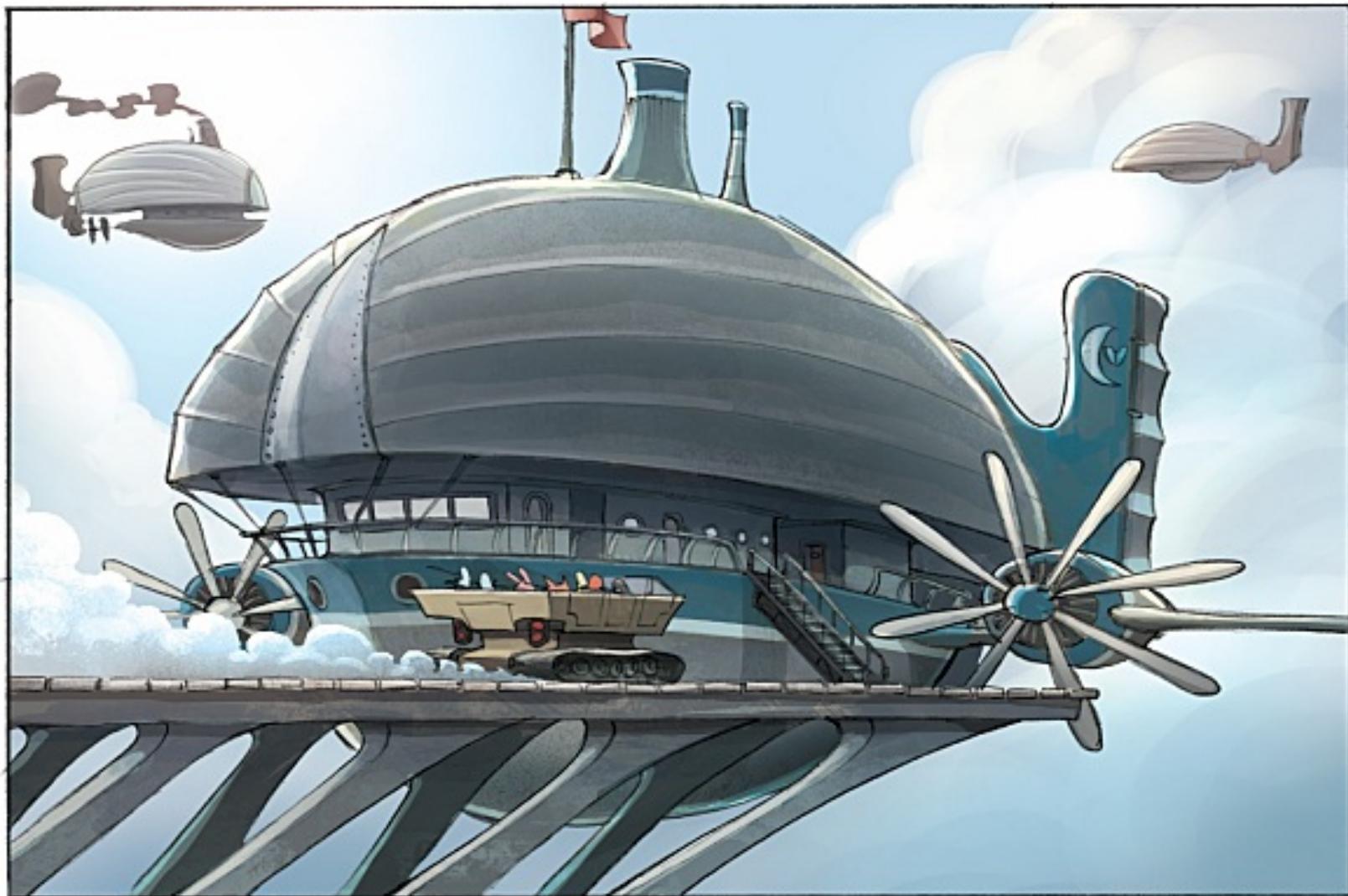


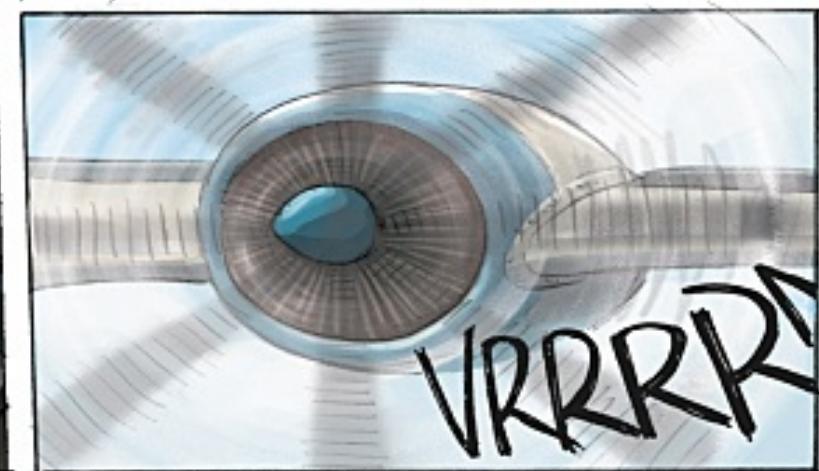
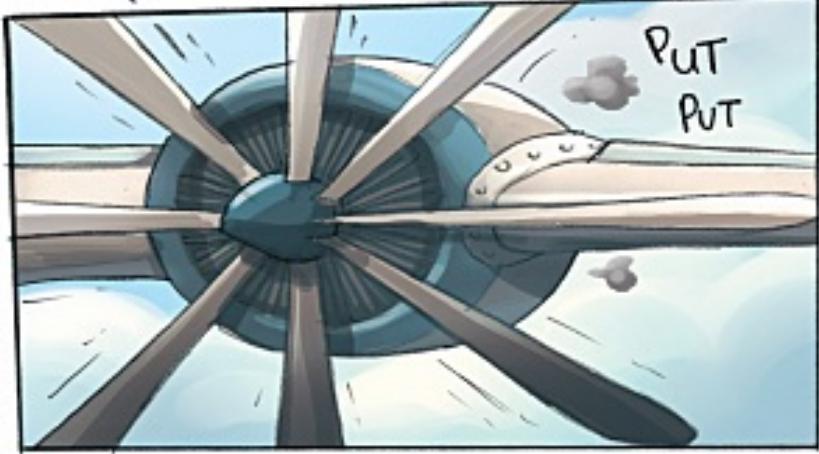
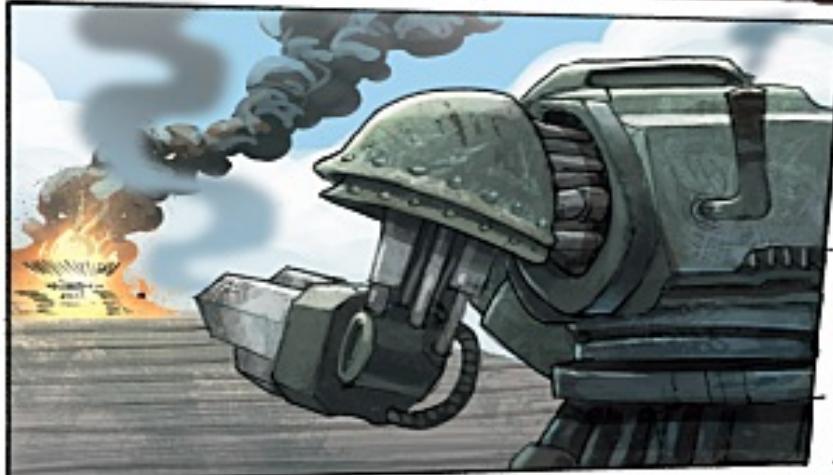
ARE YOU
CRAZY?!

YOU'LL GET
US ALL
ARRESTED!

HEADS
DOWN!



















WE HAVE TO
FIND A WAY
HOME!

IF WE STAY
HERE, WE'RE
GOING TO GET
SERIOUSLY
HURT.
OR
WORSE.

I TOLD YOU,
MOM.

IF YOU GO
HOME, I CAN'T
COME WITH YOU.

BUT WHY
NOT?!

WHAT'S
HOLDING YOU
BACK?



IT IS THE
CURSE OF THE
STONEKEEPER.

THE STONE WILL
NOT LET YOU LEAVE
NOW, WILL IT?



NO.
IT
WON'T.



A CURSE?

THAT'S
ENOUGH,
LUGER.



DO NOT
SPEAK WITH
THEM.
THEY
ALREADY
KNOW TOO
MUCH.



MY DAUGHTER
SAVED YOUR LIFE,
AND THIS IS HOW
YOU TREAT HER?!



SHE SHOULD
HAVE LEFT US
ALONE.



DON'T
MIND HIM.
WE ARE
GRATEFUL
FOR YOUR
DAUGHTER'S
ACTIONS.



HEAR
THAT?
YOU SHOULD
BE MORE LIKE
YOUR FATHER.



TRELLIS.



HMPH.

SHUT.



I'M SORRY
YOU HAVE
TO DEAL
WITH THAT.

YOU MUST
UNDERSTAND,
HE IS
NOT MY
SON.

TRELLIS.

YOU SAID YOU
WANTED MY HELP
IN DEFEATING YOUR
FATHER, THE ELF
KING.

WHY TURN
AGAINST HIM?

IT WAS A
MISTAKE TO
INVOLVE YOU
IN THIS.

GO BACK
BEFORE IT'S
TOO LATE.





WELL, LOOK
AT WHAT THE CAT
DRAGGED IN.



GABILAN,
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING
HERE?



I AM HERE
BECAUSE YOU
HAVE FAILED.



Poomf!



CLIK! CLIK!







DURING THIS
TIME, YOU WILL
BARELY REMEMBER
WHO YOU ARE.

MMF!



NOW I'M
GOING TO ASK
AGAIN NICELY.

WHO IS
HELPING
THEM?



LIKE I
SAID --
SHOVE
OFF!

CLICK!

YEAGGH!

BZZAAT!





MOST PEOPLE
BELIEVE IT IS
LONG GONE,
BUT SOME, LIKE
ENZO, BELIEVE IT
IS HIDDEN IN THE
CLOUDS.



CIELIS WAS
THE CITY OF
STONEKEEPERS,
RIGHT?



SO THE
FUGITIVE SCUM
MUST BE AFTER
REINFORCEMENTS.
VERY
INTERESTING.



YES,
SIR.

FOR YOUR
TROUBLES.

FLING!
THANK
YOU, SIR.



WHOSE SIDE
ARE YOU ON,
GABILAN?



COME
AGAIN?



YOU ARE AN
ELF, ARE YOU
NOT?

THEN WHY
DO YOU DO
SUCH THINGS
TO YOUR OWN
KIND?



I'M THE
ONLY ONE
OF MY KIND
THERE IS.

MY
KIND?



GOOD LUCK
WITH THE
KING.





THIS WAY,
EMILY.





WHO ARE
YOU?



YOU KNOW
WHO I AM.



WHERE
ARE WE?



THIS IS OUR
MEETING
PLACE.



NOT HERE.
I DON'T WANT
TO MEET HERE.



WHY
NOT?



THAT
TREE.
IT BRINGS
PAINFUL
MEMORIES.

OF
COURSE.



YOU CAN
MAKE IT
GO AWAY.



YOU HAVE
AS MUCH
CONTROL
AS I DO.



AHH,
HOW
PLEASANT.



WHAT DO
YOU WANT
FROM ME?



LET ME
SHOW YOU.



THIS
WAY.



WHERE ARE
WE GOING?



TO SEE
THE FUTURE
IN THE EYES OF
THE ELF KING.



TO SEE
WHAT MAY
BECOME.



THIS ISN'T
ALLEDIA.



NO.



IT IS YOUR
HOME WORLD,
EARTH.



YOU MUST KNOW
BY NOW THAT ALLEDIA
ISN'T THE ONLY WORLD
IN DANGER.



HE WANTS
YOU TO GO
HOME, EMILY.

PERHAPS
MORE THAN
YOU DO.

WHY?

BECAUSE
YOU CAN
HELP ME
STOP HIM.

THEN MAYBE
I SHOULD JUST GO.

THAT'S WHAT I
WANT, AS WELL.

IF THAT WERE
TRUE, THEN WHY
DID YOU LIE TO
THEM, EMILY?

YOU KNOW
THAT YOU CAN
COME AND GO
AS YOU PLEASE.

YOU TOLD
THEM I WAS
FORCING YOU
TO STAY.

BUT IT
WAS YOUR
CHOICE.

IT HAS
ALWAYS BEEN
YOUR CHOICE.











I CAN'T
GUARANTEE THAT
CIELIS IS THERE,
BUT THIS GUIDE IS
THE BEST LEAD WE
HAVE.





YOU WILL WORK
TOGETHER LIKE ONE
BIG MACHINE.

THAT MEANS
WE ARE ONLY
AS STRONG AS
OUR WEAKEST
LINK.

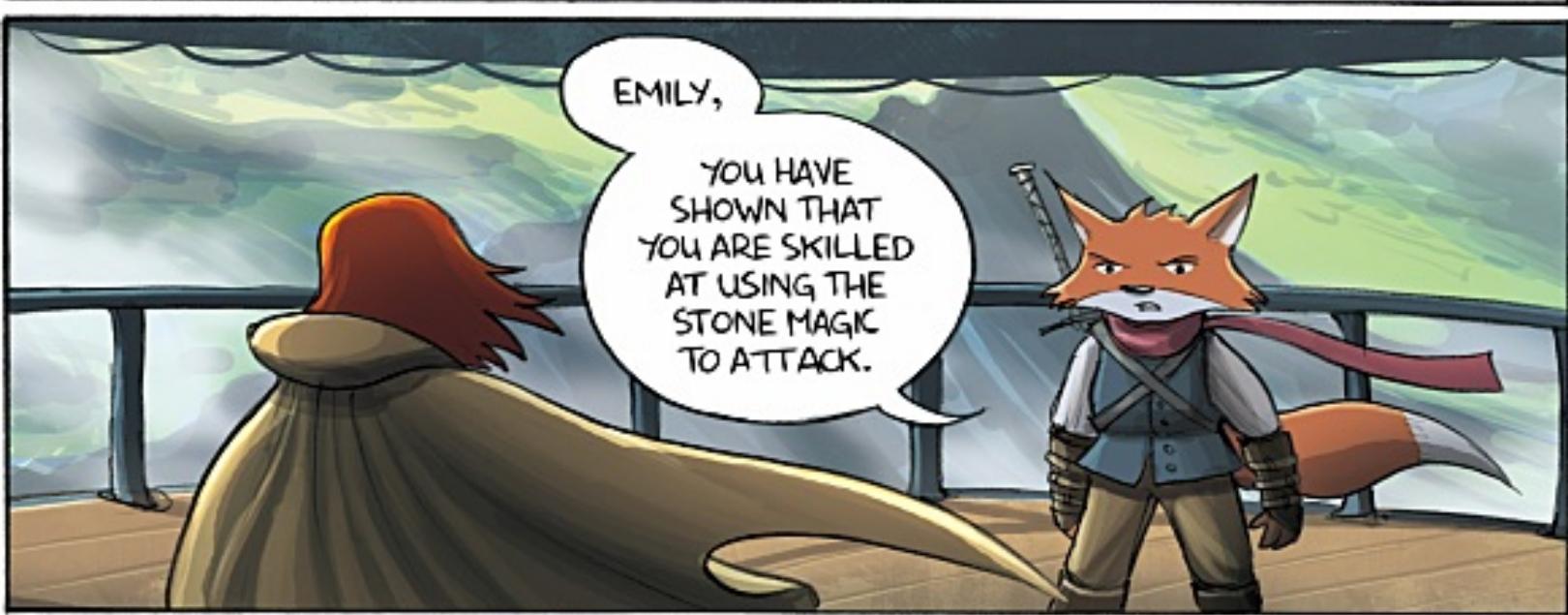
GOT THAT,
SON?

DO YOU KNOW
WHO YOU'RE
TALKING TO?

THIS YOUNG
MAN IS THE
COMMANDER OF
THE RESISTANCE!

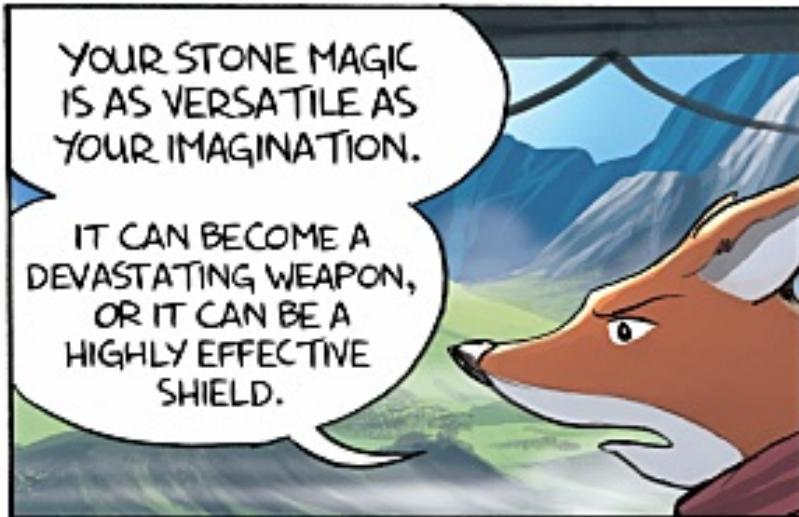
IS THAT
SO?

WELL, ON THIS
SHIP, YOU
WILL BE THE
COMMANDER OF
THIS BROOM.





IT IS LIKELY
THAT IT WILL NOT
BE YOUR ABILITY
TO ATTACK, BUT TO
DEFEND, THAT WILL
BE THE KEY TO
VICTORY.



YOUR STONE MAGIC
IS AS VERSATILE AS
YOUR IMAGINATION.

IT CAN BECOME A
DEVASTATING WEAPON,
OR IT CAN BE A
HIGHLY EFFECTIVE
SHIELD.



I WANT
YOU TO
LIFT THIS
BOTTLE.









DON'T LET YOUR
FRUSTRATION
GET TO YOU.

READY TO
TRY AGAIN?

SWEEP
SWEEP

WHAT ABOUT
MISKIT?

HE'S ---

WORK
PAST THE
DISTRACTIONS.

IGNORE
HIM.

TOSS!







BUT LUGER
SAYS IT'S
LUNCHTIME.



WHAT I WANT
TO KNOW IS WHY
YOU TWO WERE
CONSIDERED
FUGITIVES.

YOU BOYS DO
SOMETHING
WE SHOULD
BE WORRIED
ABOUT?

IT'S NOT
YOUR
BUSINESS.

EVERYTHING
ON THIS SHIP IS
MY BUSINESS,
SON.

NOW WHAT
DID YOU DO TO
GET ON YOUR
DADDY'S BAD
SIDE?

HE IS
NOT MY
FATHER,
CAPTAIN.

HE ISN'T
WHAT YOU
THINK HE IS.

JUST LEAVE
HIM BE.

THEY GET
LIKE THAT
AT THIS
AGE.

TRELLIS,
YOU DIDN'T
FINISH YOUR
FOOD.





I'VE FLOWN
A PLANE
BEFORE.

NO WAY,
KID.

THIS IS A
COMPLICATED
PIECE OF
EQUIPMENT.

SAMSON HERE
IS HIGHLY
TRAINED.

IT DOESN'T
LOOK VERY
DIFFICULT.

BUT IF YOU
DO A GOOD JOB
CLEANING, I'LL
CONSIDER LETTING
YOU STEER FOR
A FEW MINUTES.

WHOOOSH!!!
NOW GET
BACK THERE
AND --









MOM!





SKREEE!!!

(CRUNCH!)

HURRY!
GET
INSIDE!

WE CAN
KILL IT.
THERE
ARE TOO
MANY OF
THEM.

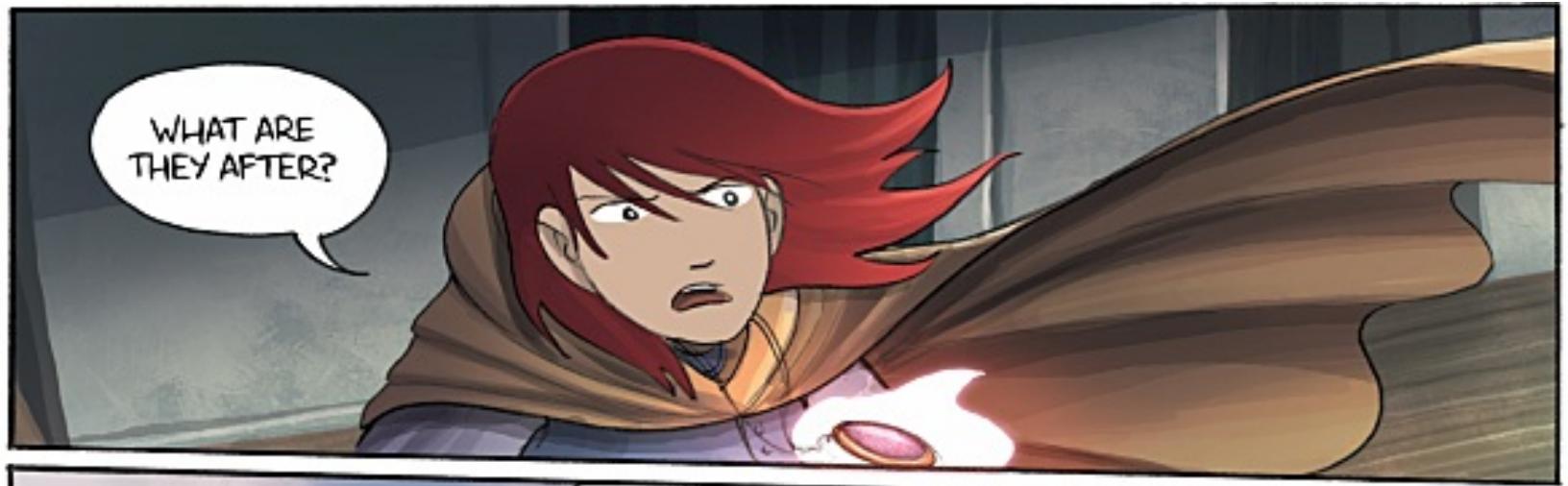
IT'S BEEN
A WHILE SINCE
THE LAST WYVERN
ATTACK, ENZO.

WHAT IF THE
STUNNER DOESN'T
WORK ANYMORE?

WHIRRPP! CHUNK!
CHUNK

UNFORTUNATELY,
WE DON'T HAVE
OTHER OPTIONS,
RICO.





WHAT ARE
THEY AFTER?



THEY'RE ON
THE HUNT FOR
FOOD.

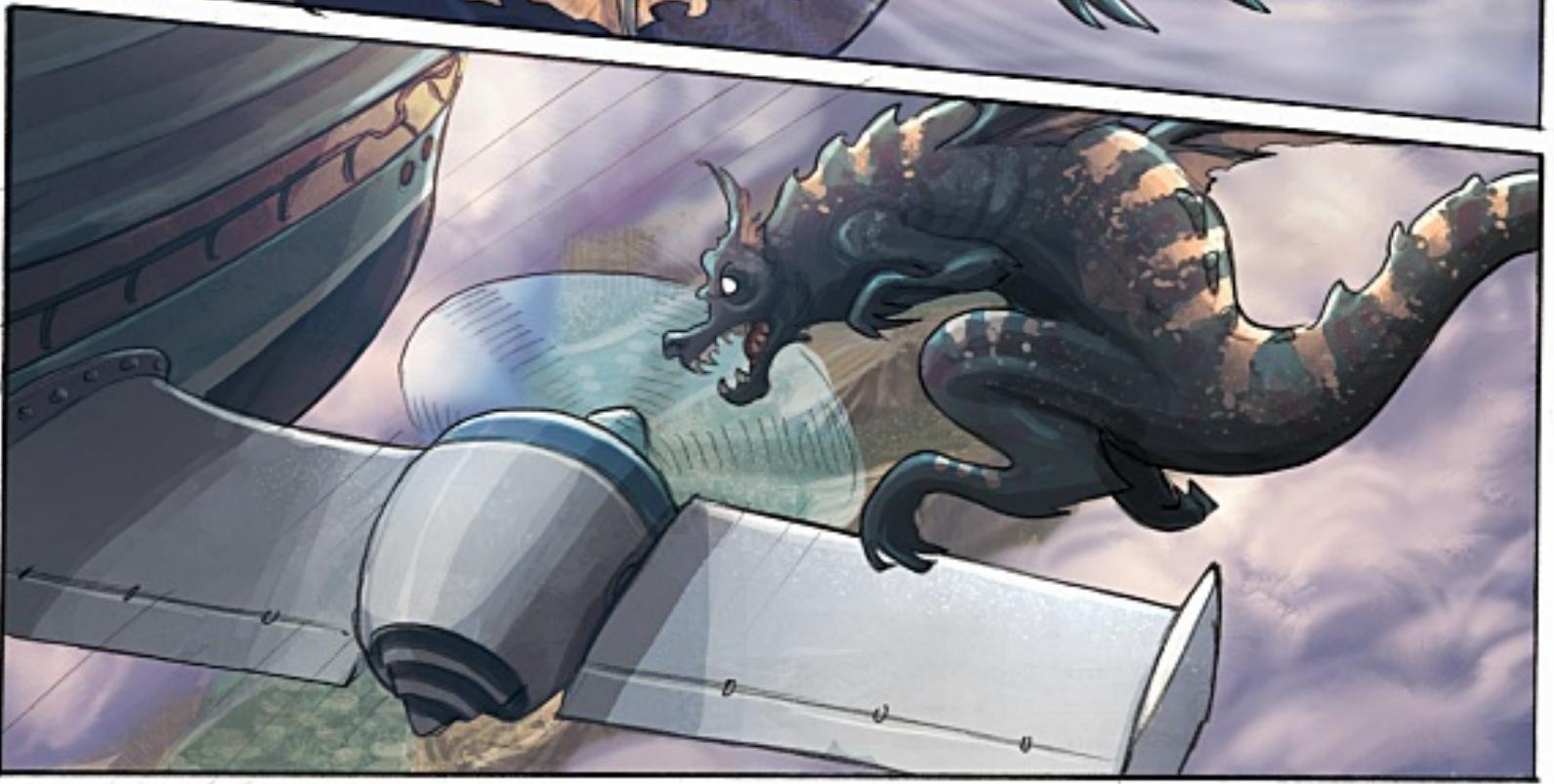
BUT THEY'RE
USUALLY NOT
SO AGGRESSIVE.

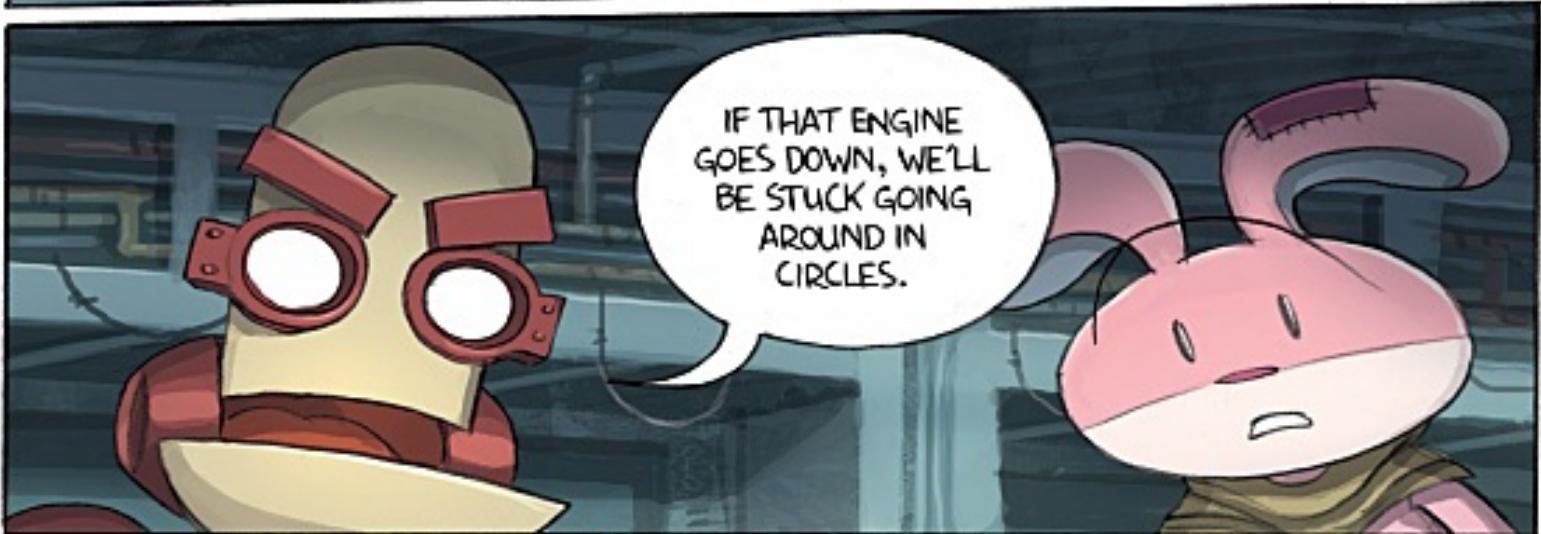


WHATEVER
IT IS THEY WANT,
WE BETTER LET
THEM KNOW TO
LOOK ELSE-
WHERE!



I DON'T THINK
THOSE TOYS ARE
GOING TO DO IT,
CAPTAIN.





HERE,
TIE THIS
AROUND YOUR
WAIST.

WHAT ARE
YOU DOING?

I'M GOING
TO GO OUT
THERE AND
FIX IT.

WE HAVE
TO GET CLEAR
OF THESE
CLOUDS.

IT'S THESE
THUNDERHEADS.

WYVERNS
LIKE TO FLY
THROUGH
THEM.





UNFORTUNATELY,
THESE STUNNERS
DON'T HAVE ENOUGH
JUICE TO HAVE
AN EFFECT.



I'LL BACK
YOU UP.

No.



I WILL.



THEY'RE
MY FRIENDS.
I'LL PROTECT
THEM.



EMILY,
I AM BETTER
THAN YOU AT
DEFENDING.



I'M NOT
GOING TO LEAVE
THEIR LIVES IN
A STRANGER'S
HANDS.

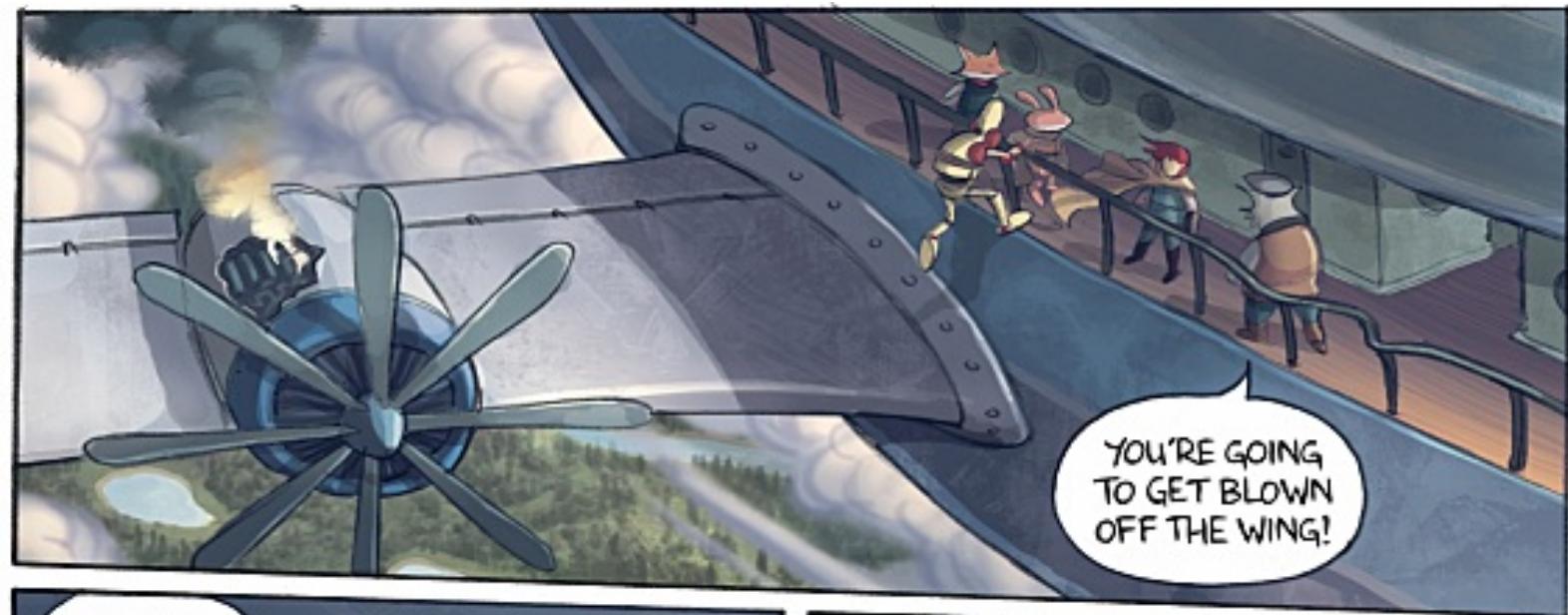
JUST HELP ME
KEEP THE WYVERNS
AWAY AS BEST
YOU CAN.

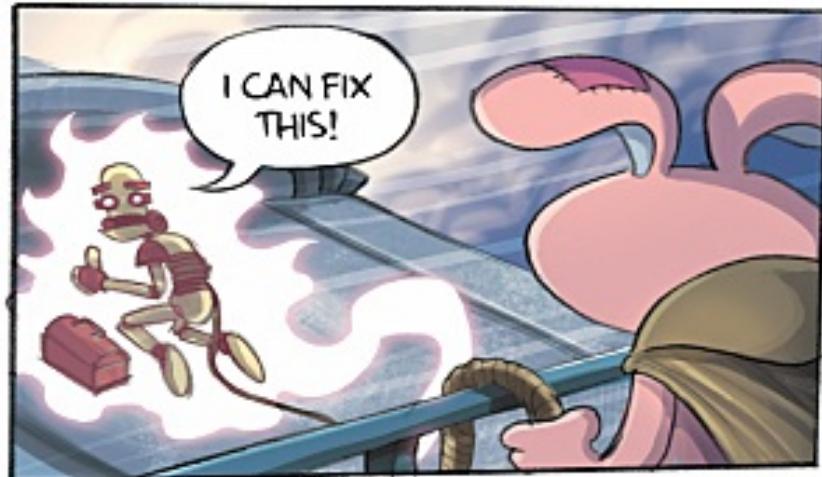
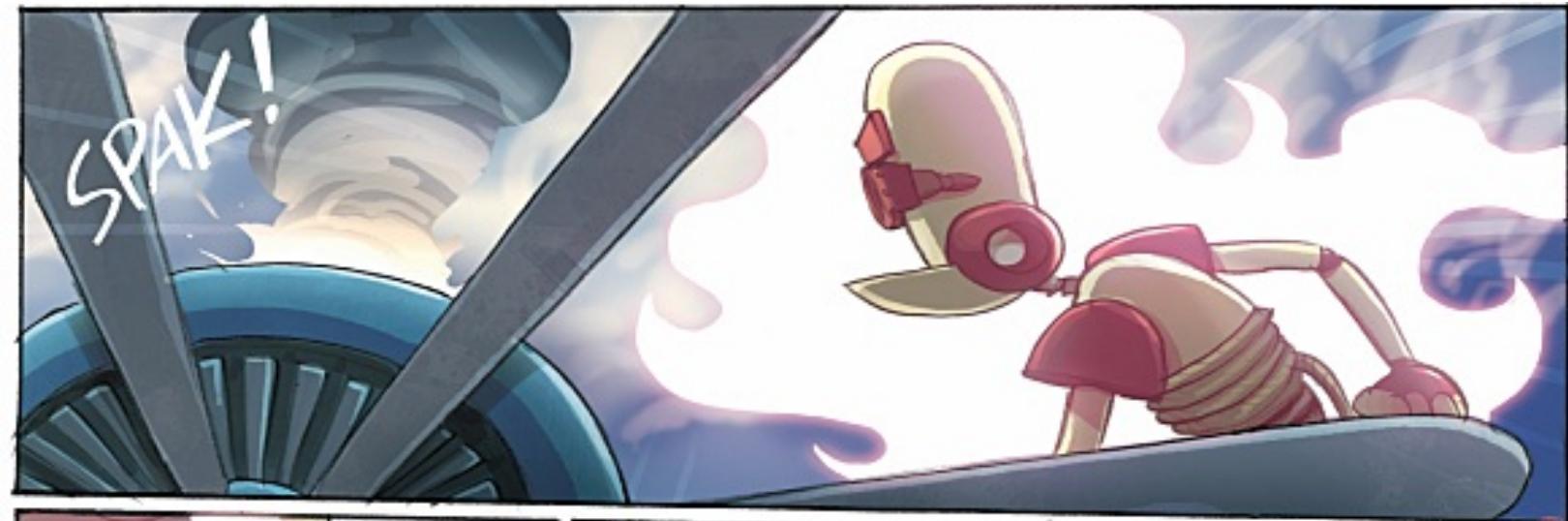


FINE.

I WILL POSITION
MYSELF AT THE
SHIP'S BOW.

YELL FOR
ME IF YOU NEED
MY HELP.









HERE
THEY
COME!!







WELCOME
BACK!



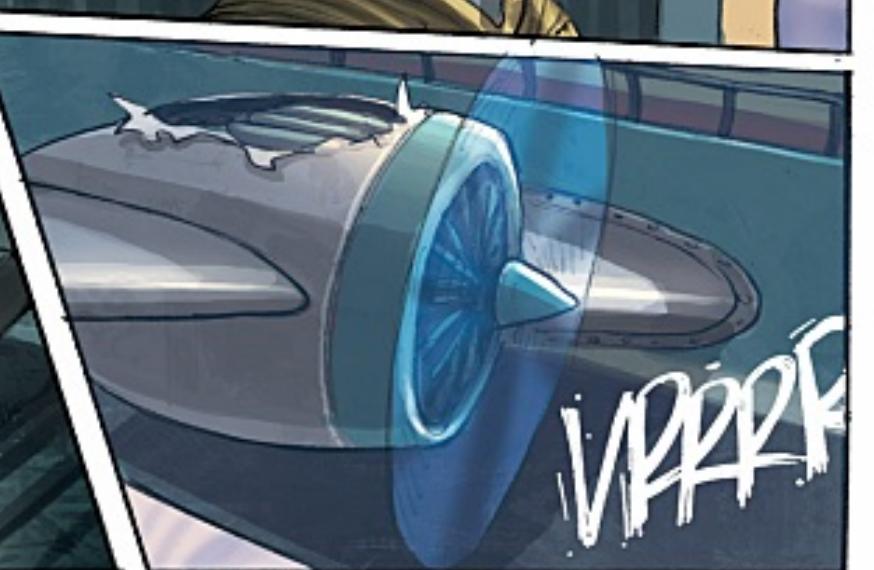
NICE JOB,
EMILY.



WE'RE BACK
TO FULL
POWER!



PRESS!

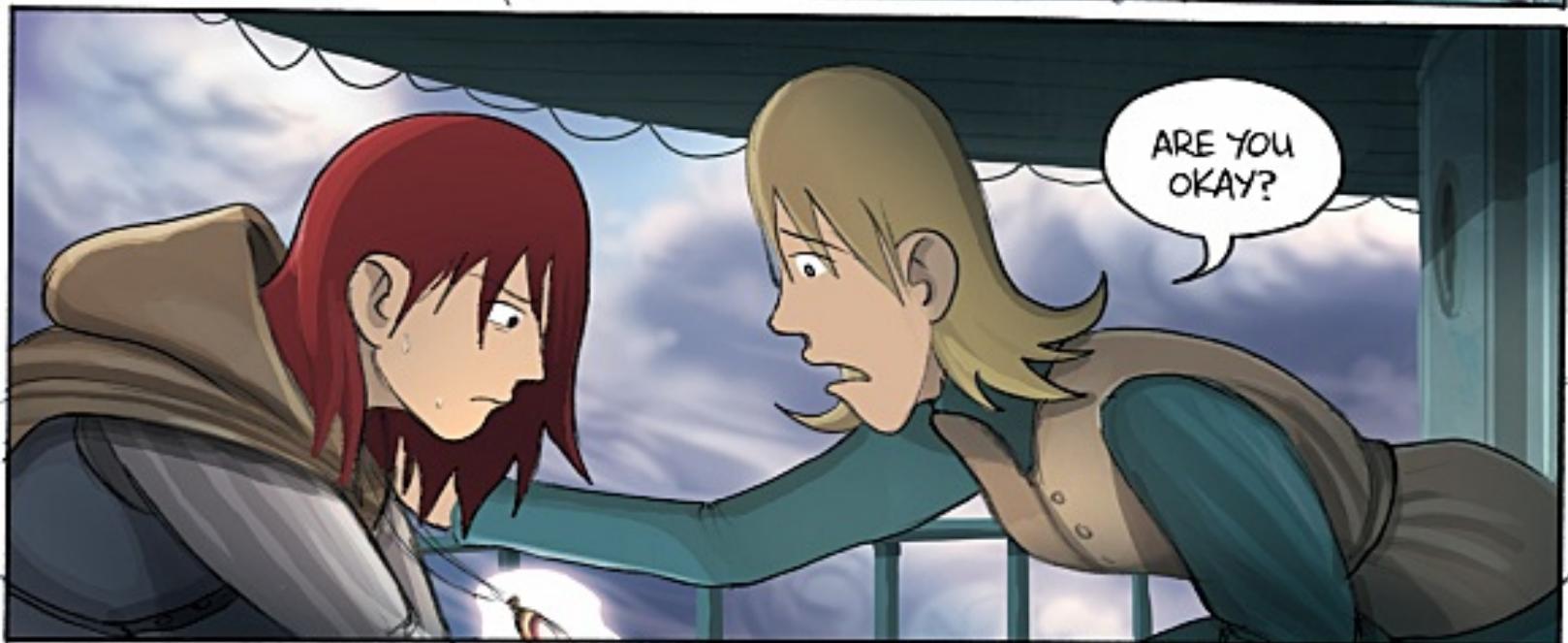


VRRPF









WHAT
WERE YOU
THINKING?

WE HAVE
TO GO BACK.
WE CAN'T
LEAVE THEM
BEHIND!

STOP
THE SHIP!
WE HAVE
TO TURN
AROUND!

ARE YOU
CRAZY?!

BUT WE LOST
MISKIT AND
COGSLEY!

WHAT?!

WE HAVE
TO GET OUT
OF THESE CLOUDS
BEFORE THE
WYVERN'S TEAR
US APART!

A WYVERN
TOOK THEM.

I'M SORRY,
KID, BUT THERE'S
NOTHING WE CAN
DO.





THEY'RE
TOO FAST FOR
THIS SHIP.

EVEN IF WE
CHASED AFTER
YOUR FRIENDS, WE
WOULD NEVER
CATCH UP.



I'M
SORRY.



LEON,

YOU HAVE
TO CONVINCE
THEM TO TURN
AROUND!

I'M AFRAID
ENZO'S RIGHT,
EMILY.

THERE IS
NOTHING WE
CAN DO.

WE CAN'T
JUST LEAVE
THEM BEHIND!

THEIR JOB WAS
TO PROTECT YOU.

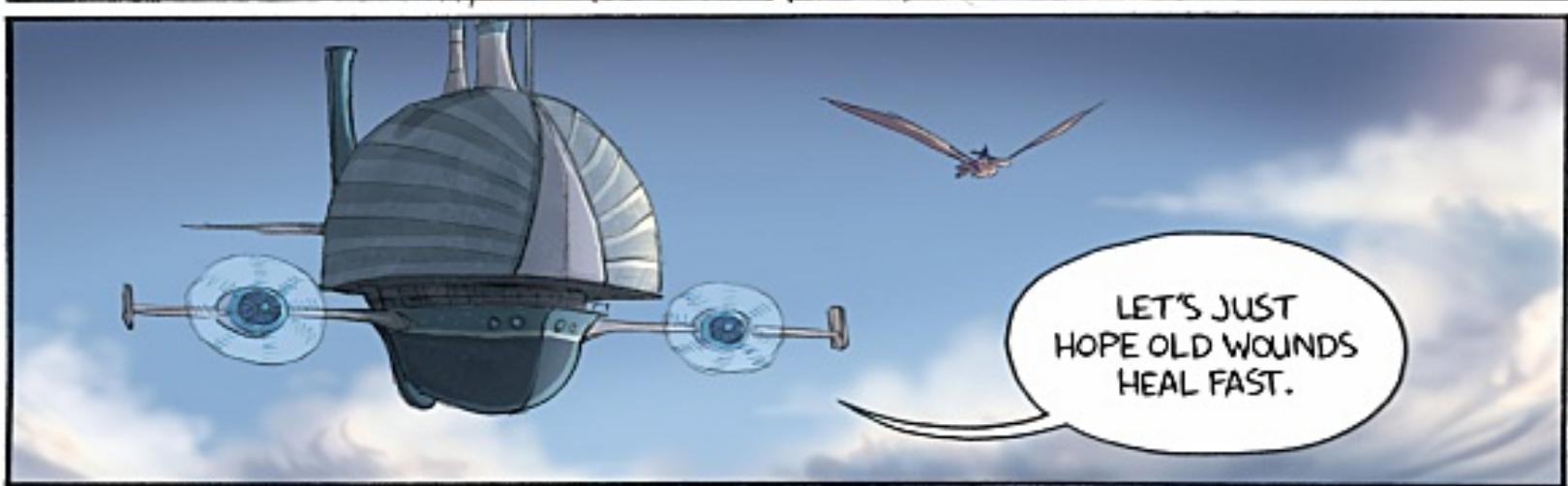
NOT THE
OTHER WAY
AROUND.

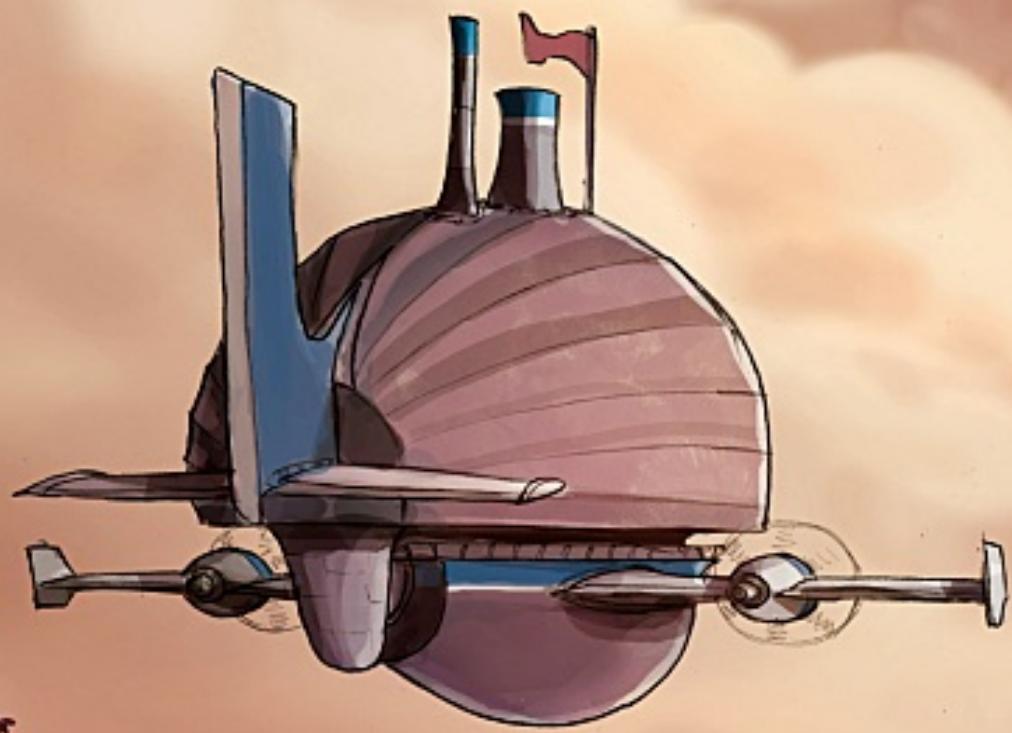
PUTTING YOU IN
HARM'S WAY TO SAVE
THEM IS THE LAST THING
SILAS WOULD HAVE
WANTED.

IT'S NOT
YOUR FAULT,
EMILY.

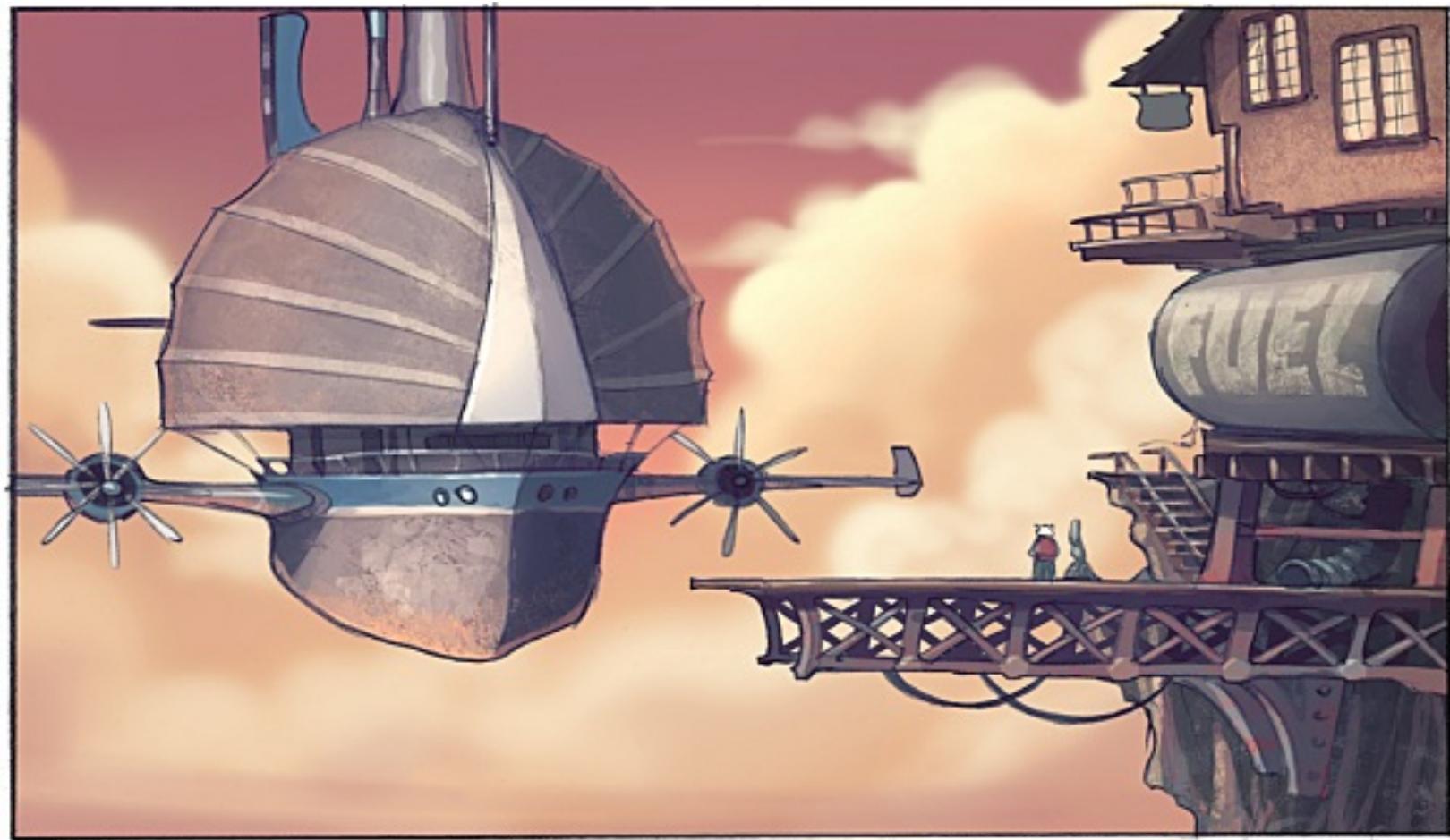
YOU KNOW
THAT'S NOT
TRUE.













DON'T DO ANYTHING FOOLISH.



HEY, SEL! LONG TIME NO SEE!



YOU LOOK GOOD!



SMAK!!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, ENZO?



I JUST
NEED FUEL,
SELINA.

AND I'LL
BE OUT OF
YOUR HAIR.



I THOUGHT
YOU STOPPED
SAILING THIS
ROUTE LONG
AGO.

I DID.



YEAH,
I'M FINE.
I'D LIKE YOU
ALL TO MEET
SOMEONE.



ARE
YOU OKAY,
CAPTAIN?



THIS
IS SELINA
FIGGINS.
SHE IS THE
OWNER OF THIS
FUELING STATION.



ARE YOU
STILL CHASING
THAT STUPID
FLYING CITY?



FOR YOUR
INFORMATION,
THESE PEOPLE
HAVE ASKED ME
TO TAKE THEM
THERE.



THESE TWO HAVE A BIT OF A HISTORY.



YOU HAVE NO IDEA WHERE IT IS, ENZO.
DO THESE PEOPLE KNOW JUST HOW LOST YOU ARE?



SELINA, JUST FUEL UP THE MOTH AND WE'LL BE ON OUR WAY.



HMPH.



TELL THE BOYS TO MAKE THIS SHIP THEIR PRIORITY.



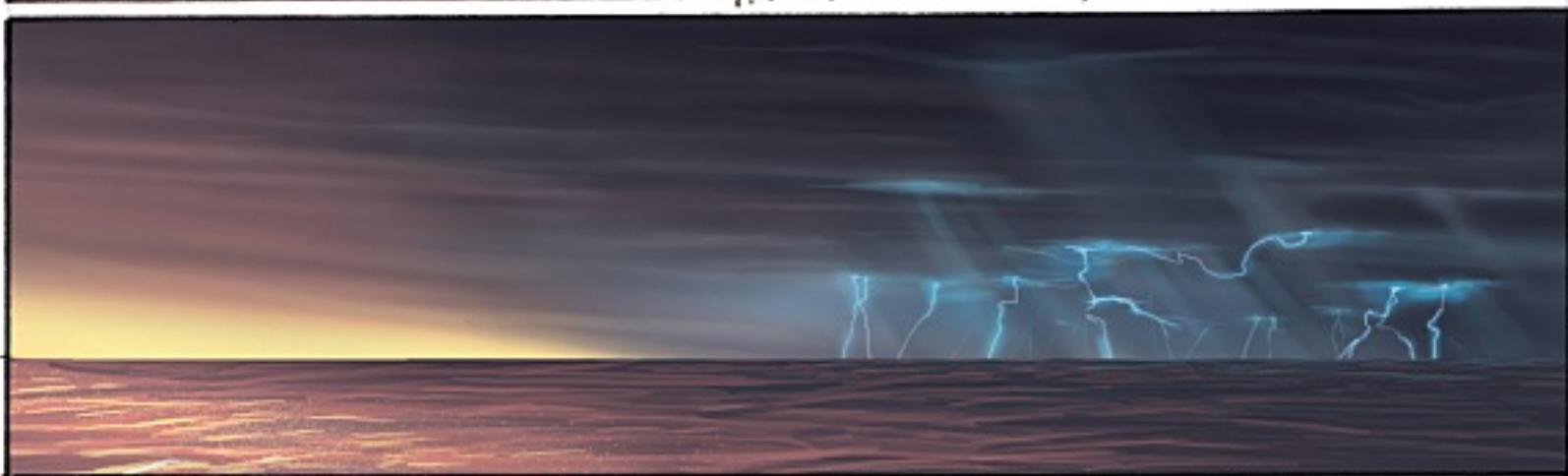
YES, MA'AM.



I WANT YOU OUT OF HERE FIRST THING IN THE MORNING.



YES, MA'AM.









FAIR
ENOUGH.

BUT THE NEXT
TIME I TRY TO
HELP, I SUGGEST
YOU STAY OUT OF
MY WAY.

FOR
YOUR SAKE.

Selina

WAIT.

YOU NEVER
ANSWERED MY
QUESTION.

WHY TURN
AGAINST YOUR
FATHER?

IT'S A
PRIVATE
MATTER.

IF YOU WANT
ME TO TRUST
YOU, THEN YOU
NEED TO START
TRUSTING
ME.



AND YOU CAN
BEGIN BY TELLING
ME WHY YOU NEED
MY HELP IN TAKING
DOWN YOUR
FATHER.



ON GONDOA
MOUNTAIN, THE
DAY WE MET.
THE ARACHNOPOD
CARRYING YOUR MOTHER
WAS SUPPOSED TO FIND
ITS WAY BACK TO THE
ELF KING, BUT I
STOPPED IT.



IT WAS SEEN
AS AN ACT OF
TREASON.

MY FATHER WAS LOOKING
FOR A YOUNG STONEKEEPER
TO TAKE MY PLACE AS HIS
SUCCESSOR, AND I WANTED
TO STOP HIM.

I WANTED TO USE
YOU AGAINST HIM,
BUT I FAILED.



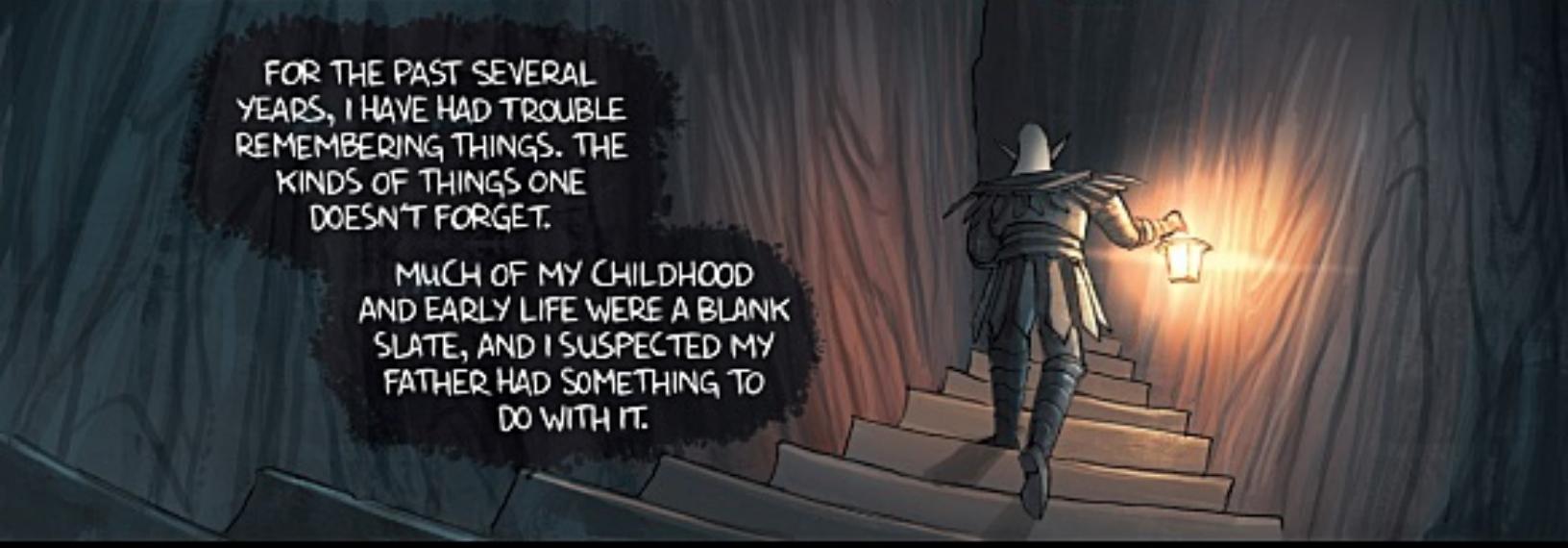
HE WANTED
ME TO BE HIS
SUCCESSOR?



BEING JEALOUS,
I ASSUMED THAT
WAS HIS WISH.



BUT I'M AFRAID
THE TRUTH IS
FAR MORE
SINISTER.



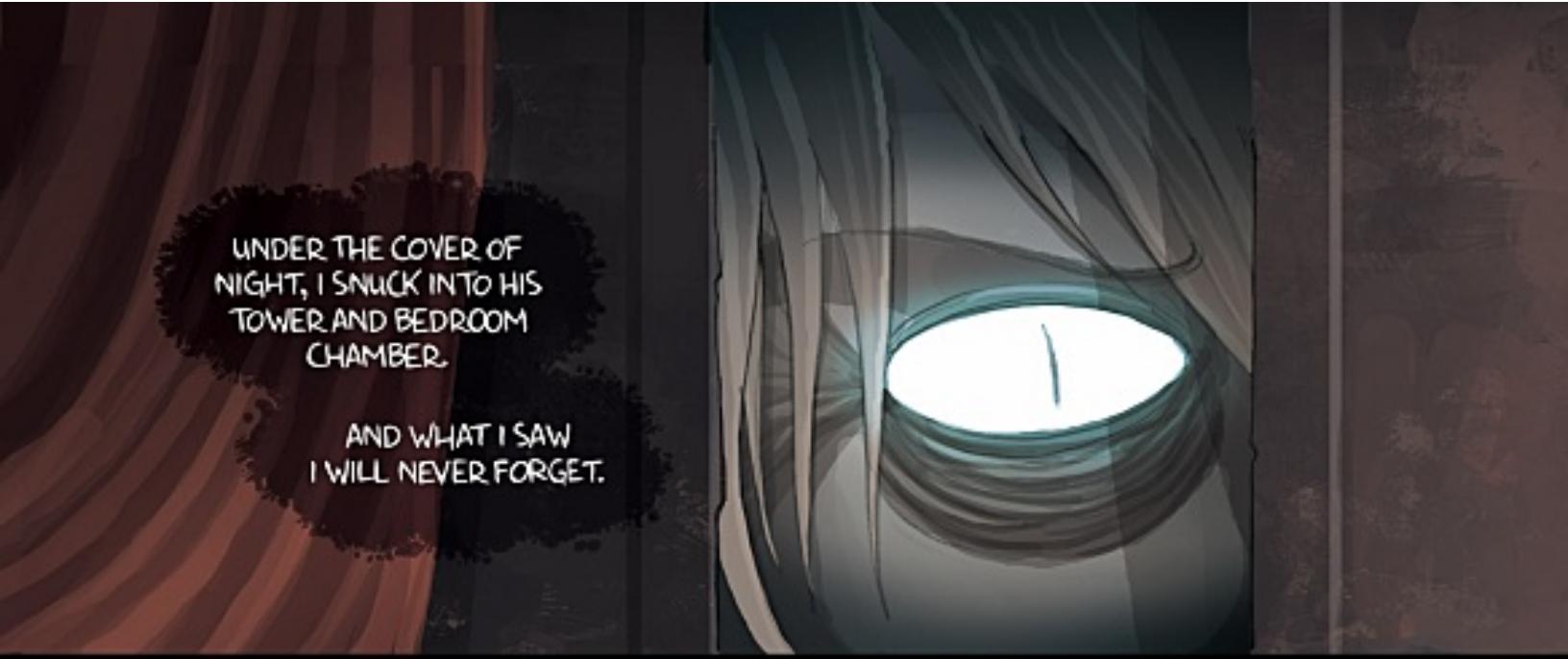
FOR THE PAST SEVERAL
YEARS, I HAVE HAD TROUBLE
REMEMBERING THINGS. THE
KINDS OF THINGS ONE
DOESN'T FORGET.

MUCH OF MY CHILDHOOD
AND EARLY LIFE WERE A BLANK
SLATE, AND I SUSPECTED MY
FATHER HAD SOMETHING TO
DO WITH IT.



STRANGELY ENOUGH,
ONE OF THE FEW REMAINING
IMAGES IN MY MEMORY WAS
THAT OF MY FATHER'S FACE.
IT WAS THE ONLY THING I
SAW CLEARLY, AS IF I HAD
DECIDED IT WAS THE ONLY
MEMORY WORTH KEEPING.

I WANTED TO SEE HIM
AGAIN, TO CATCH A GLIMPSE
OF HIS FACE BEHIND THE MASK,
WITH THE HOPE THAT IT MIGHT
HELP BRING BACK MORE
MEMORIES.



UNDER THE COVER OF
NIGHT, I SNUCK INTO HIS
TOWER AND BEDROOM
CHAMBER.

AND WHAT I SAW
I WILL NEVER FORGET.



BEHIND THE MASK
WAS MY FATHER'S
FACE, JUST AS I HAD
REMEMBERED IT.

BUT JUST AS MY
MEMORY WAS FROZEN
IN TIME, THE FACE BEFORE
ME WAS FROZEN AS WELL.

SOMETHING
WAS WRONG.



HIS FEATURES WERE GAUNT
AND GRAY, WITH SKIN LIKE
STONE. HIS EYES GLAZED OVER
BY A MILKY WHITE SUBSTANCE,
AND NOTHING BUT A COLD
EMPTINESS BEHIND THEM.

HE WAS
DEAD.



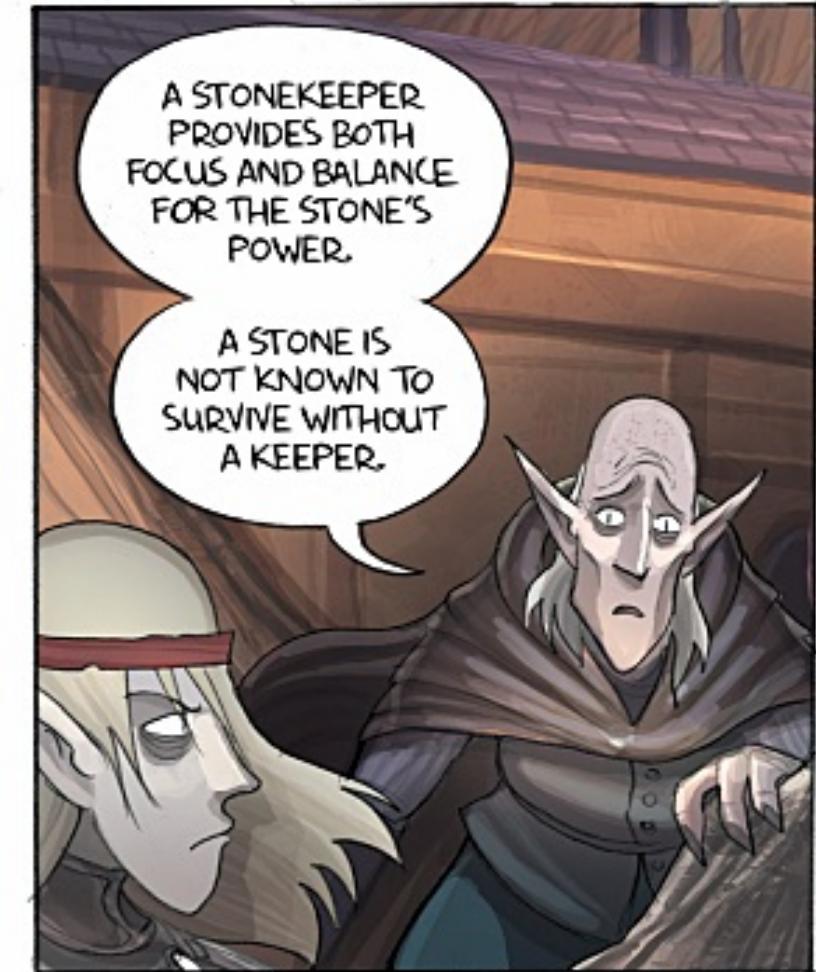
THE ELF KING IS
NOTHING MORE THAN
A WALKING CORPSE,
AND WHATEVER LIVES
INSIDE OF IT KILLED
MY FATHER.

I WANT TO DESTROY
IT BEFORE IT DOES
MORE HARM TO THE
NATION OF ELVES.



IF HE'S DEAD,
THEN HOW CAN
YOU DEFEAT HIM?
HOW CAN ANYONE
KILL HIM?

YOU MUST
DESTROY THE
STONE.



A STONEKEEPER
PROVIDES BOTH
FOCUS AND BALANCE
FOR THE STONE'S
POWER.

A STONE IS
NOT KNOWN TO
SURVIVE WITHOUT
A KEEPER.



BUT THIS
ONE HAS FOUND A
WAY TO REANIMATE
THE BODY OF ITS
DEAD MASTER,

USING THE
DARKEST KIND
OF MAGIC
THERE IS.



AND IT IS
LIKELY THAT
THE KING WAS
NOT THE FIRST
VICTIM.



YOU WILL NEED
TO WORK TOGETHER
TO DEFEAT THE
STONE.

YOU WILL
NOT SUCCEED
ALONE.



GO BACK
INSIDE BEFORE
YOU GET SICK.

WHY ME,
TRELLIS?

WHY DO
YOU NEED
MY HELP?



BECAUSE
MY STONE
TOLD ME IT
HAD TO BE
YOU.







I JUST HAD A BAD DREAM.

EXCEPT I'M NOT SURE IT WAS JUST A DREAM.

I KNOW EXACTLY WHAT YOU MEAN.

YOU DO?

WHEN YOUR FATHER PASSED AWAY, I FELT PRETTY MUCH LIKE YOU DO NOW.

I HAD MORE WEIGHT ON MY SHOULDERS THAN I COULD HANDLE.

WITHOUT HIS SUPPORT, I DIDN'T KNOW WHAT TO DO. I FELT SO ALONE.

BUT WHEN I LOOKED AT YOUR FACES, I REALIZED I HAD TO STOP FEELING BAD FOR MYSELF.

I HAD TO FOCUS ON TAKING GOOD CARE OF YOU, AND THERE JUST WASN'T TIME TO DWELL ON IT.

SO I TRUSTED MYSELF TO FIGURE IT OUT.

AND MY WORRIES VANISHED.





IF YOU CAN FIND
THE CONFIDENCE TO
TRUST YOURSELF,
YOU CAN MAKE
IT THROUGH ANY
SITUATION, NO
MATTER HOW
BAD THINGS
MAY SEEM.



NOW STOP
WORRYING
SO MUCH.
YOU'RE
WASTING YOUR
TIME.



COME
HERE.



YOU'RE NOT
WORRIED?

I'M YOUR
MOTHER,
SWEETIE.



WORRYING
ABOUT YOU
IS MY FULL-
TIME JOB.



IT'S TIME YOU
STARTED THINKING
ABOUT SETTLING
DOWN.



YOU'RE
GETTING OLD,
YOU KNOW?



I'VE STILL
GOT QUITE A
FEW YEARS LEFT,
AND I INTEND TO
USE THEM TO
REALIZE MY
DREAMS.



SOMEDAY
YOU'LL HAVE TO
STOP CHASING THESE
RAINBOWS AND THINK
ABOUT WHAT FUTURE
YOU HAVE LEFT.

THIS ISN'T
A RAINBOW.



LOOK,

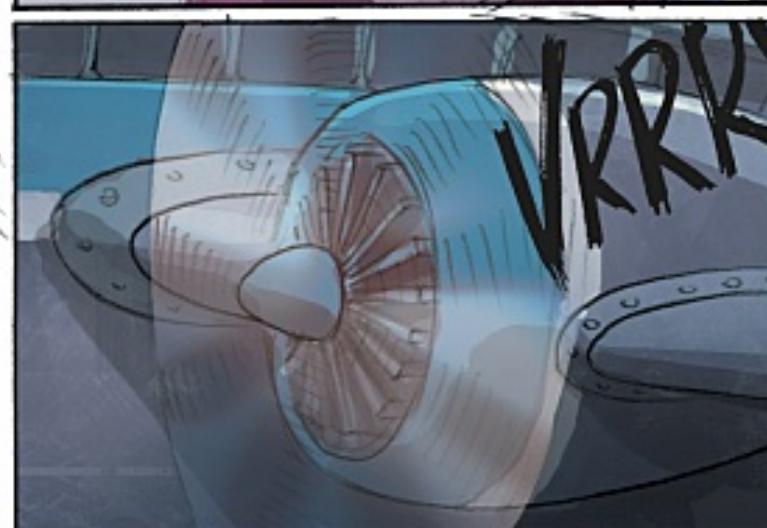
JUST REMEMBER
THAT WHEN YOU
DECIDE TO SETTLE
DOWN, THERE WILL BE
A JOB WAITING FOR
YOU HERE AT THE
STATION.



THANKS FOR
THE OFFER, SEL, BUT
I PLAN TO SETTLE DOWN
ON A CITY HIGH ABOVE
THE CLOUDS.



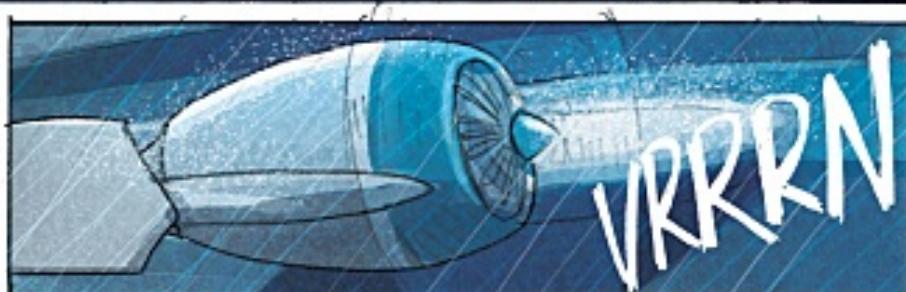
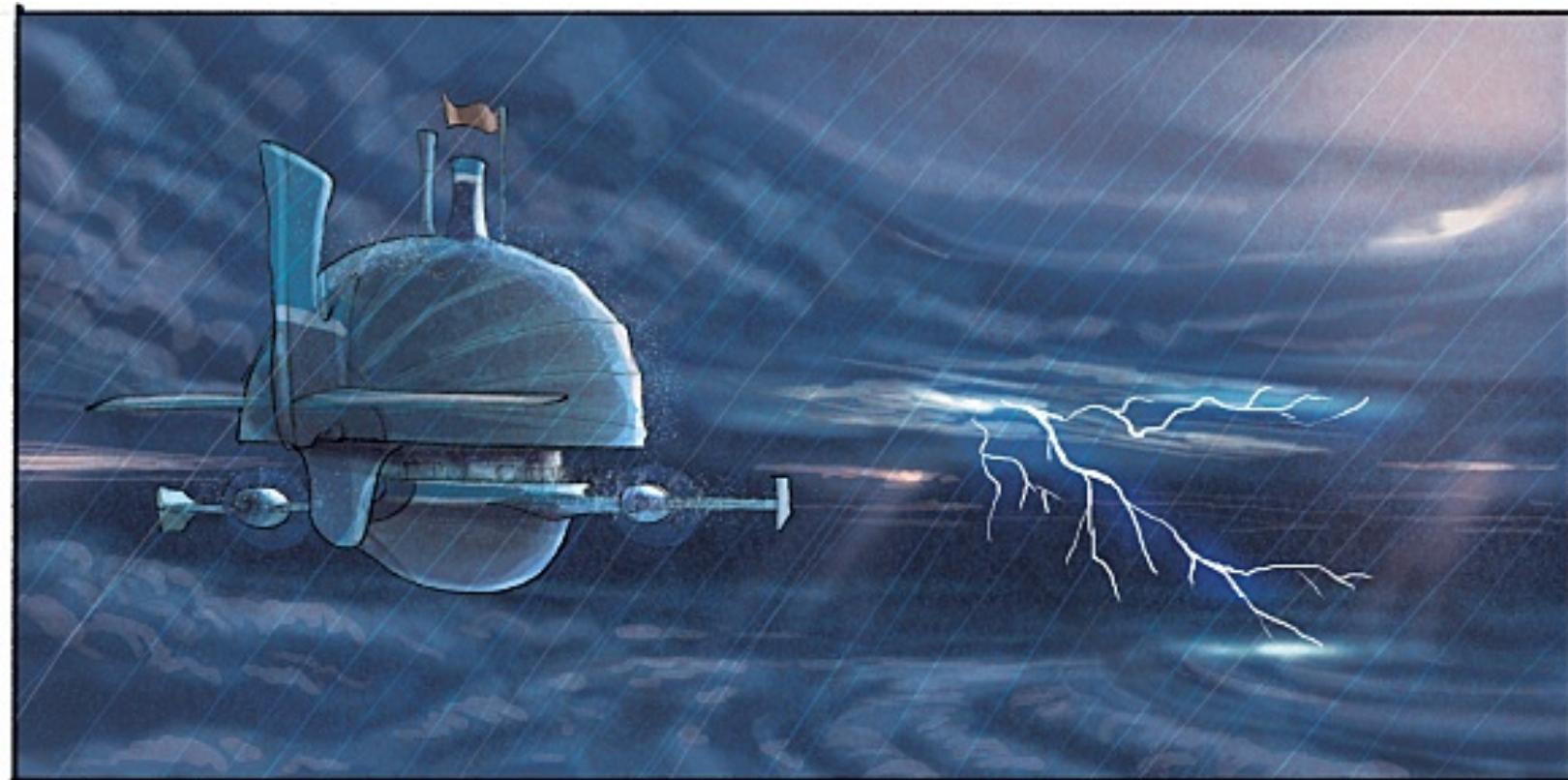
I'LL SEND YOU
A POSTCARD.



RRRR













THEY ARE
AMONG THE
OLDEST LIVING
ANIMALS ON OUR
PLANET.

THAT EEL
RIGHT THERE IS
PROBABLY OLDER
THAN THE HISTORY
OF YOUR PEOPLE.



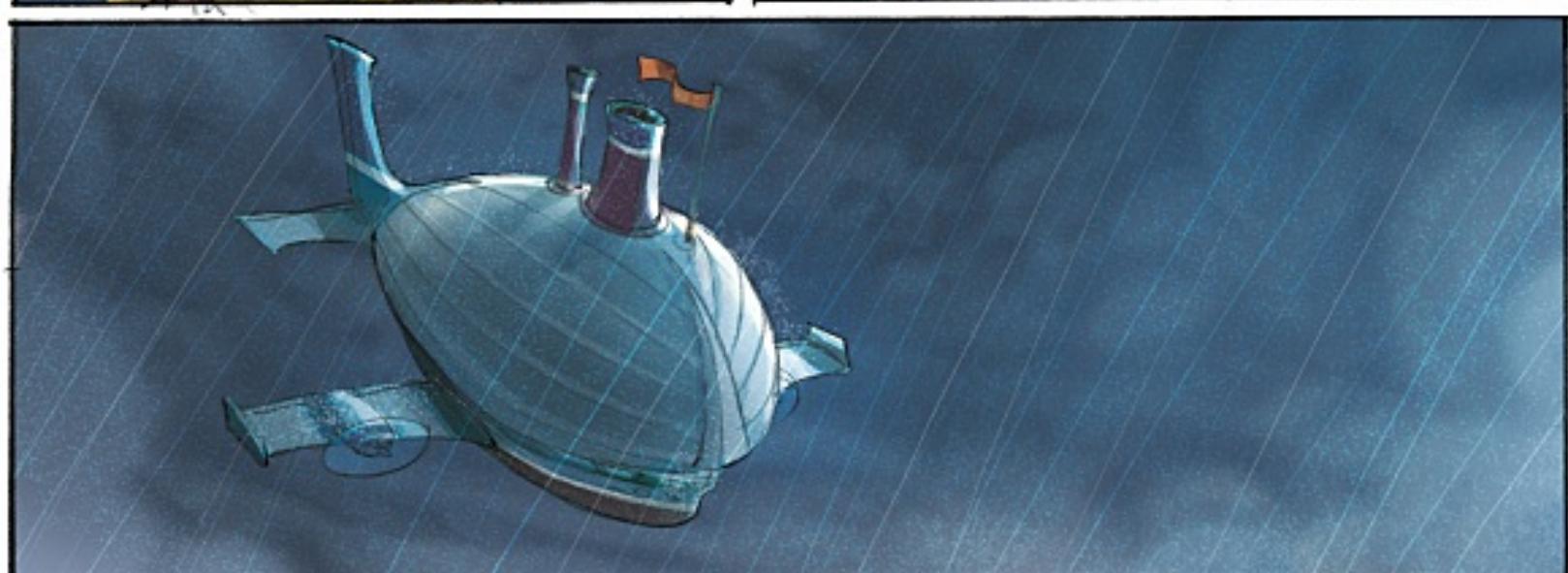
CAN YOU
IMAGINE ALL
THE THINGS HE
MIGHT HAVE SEEN
IN HIS LIFETIME?

HE MUST HAVE A
TREASURE TROVE
OF MEMORIES.

MYSELF,
I CAN'T EVEN
RECALL THE DAYS
OF MY YOUTH.

THAT'S OKAY.
OLD PEOPLE
FORGET THINGS
ALL THE TIME.





WAIT UNTIL
I GIVE THE
WORD!

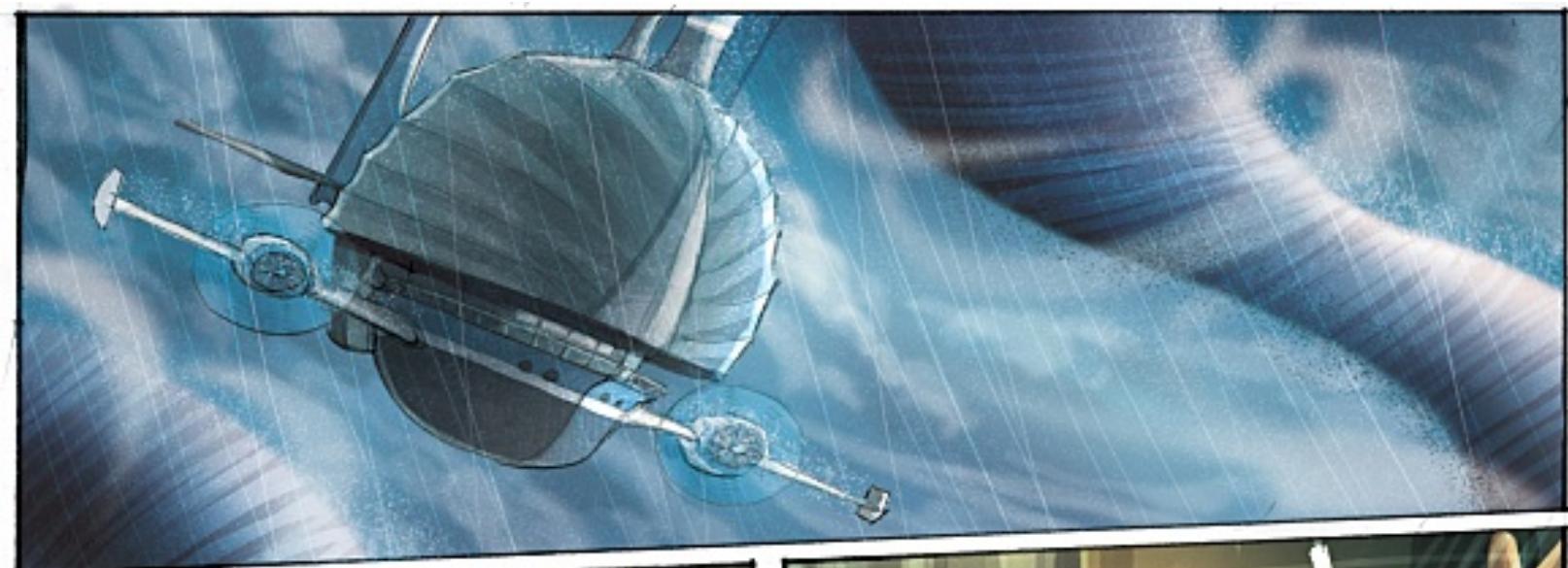


NOW,
RICO!
FULL
BLAST!

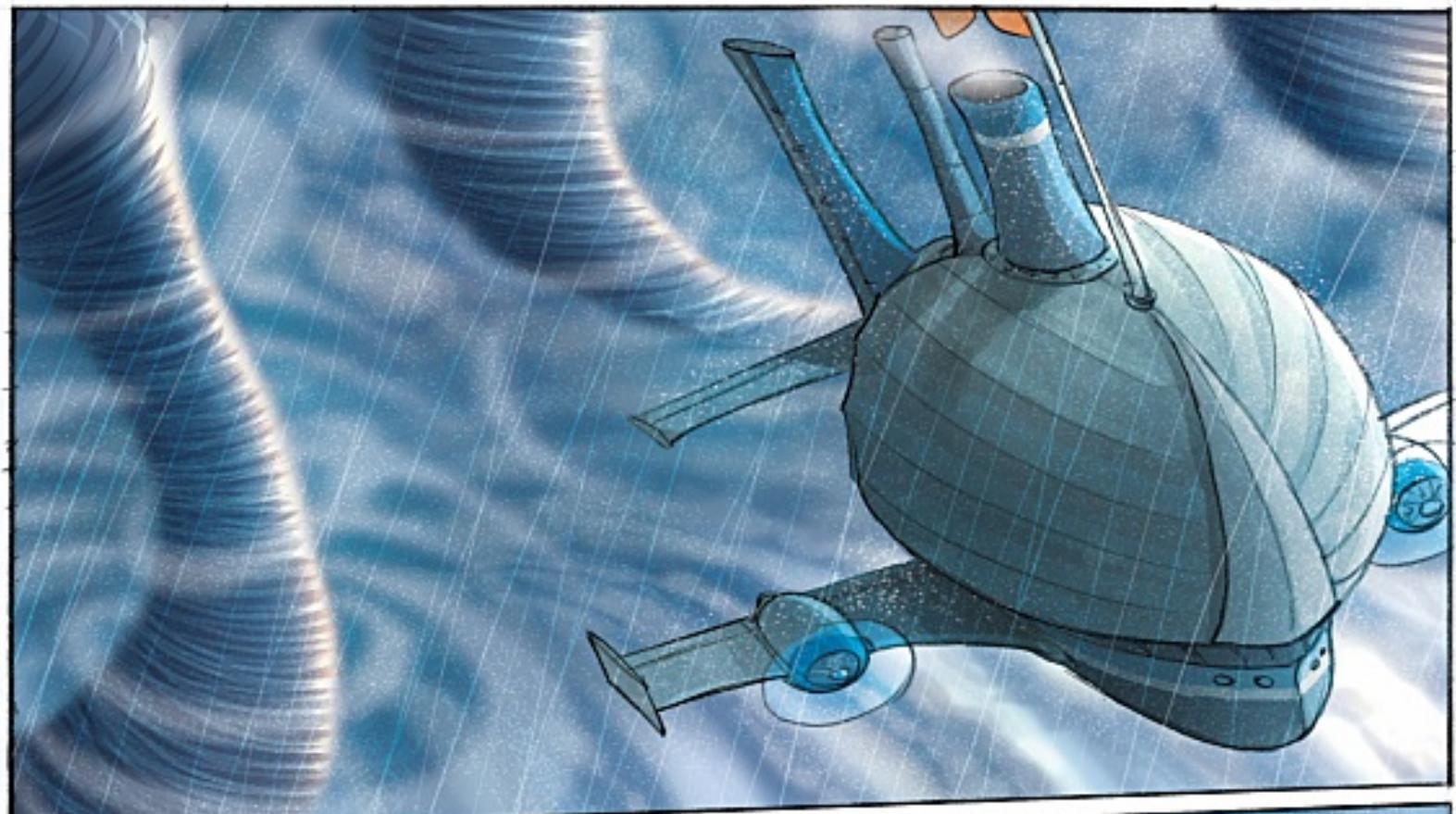


FUNNEL
CLOUDS!

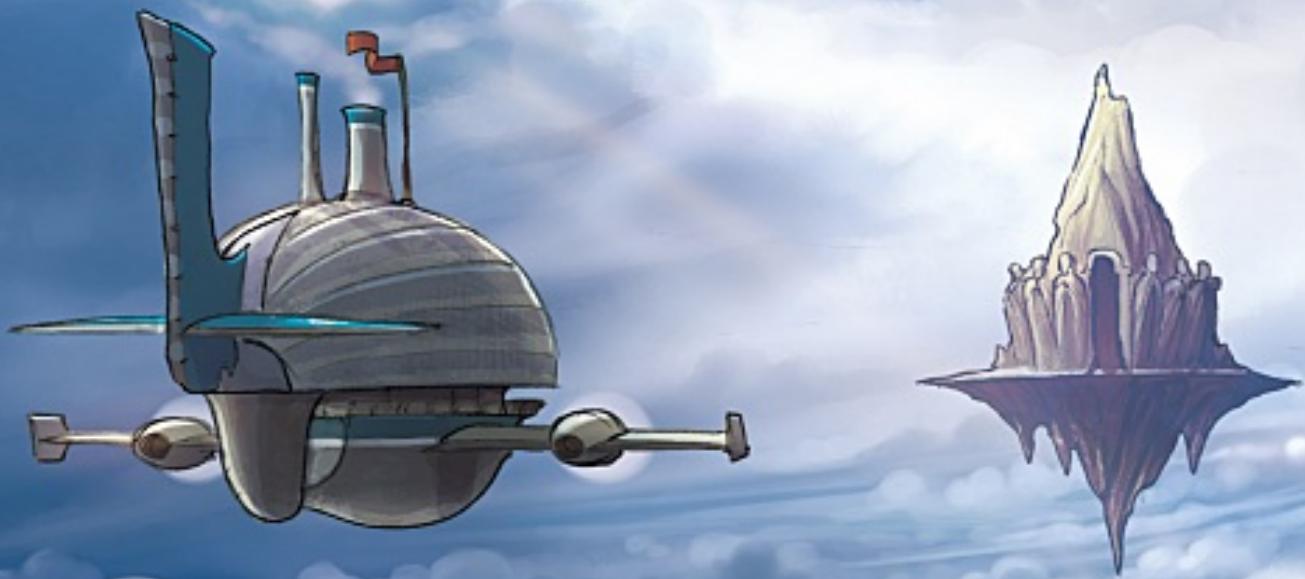


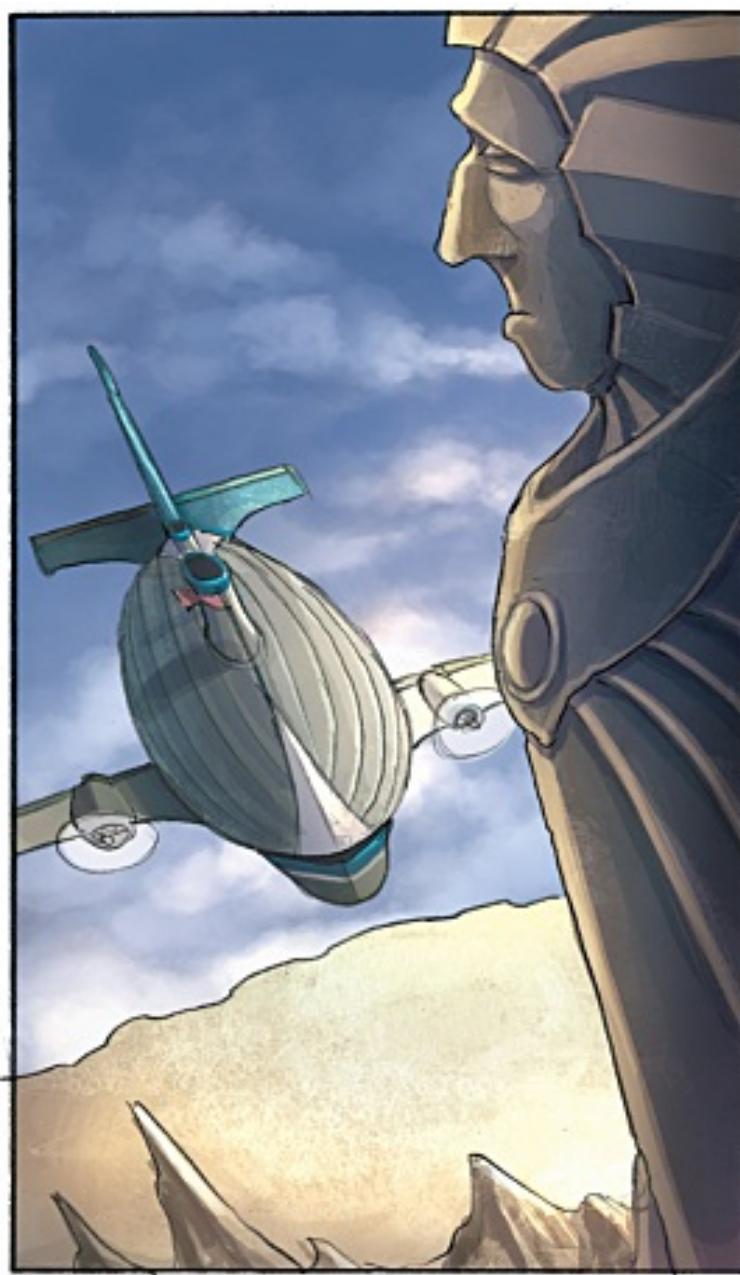


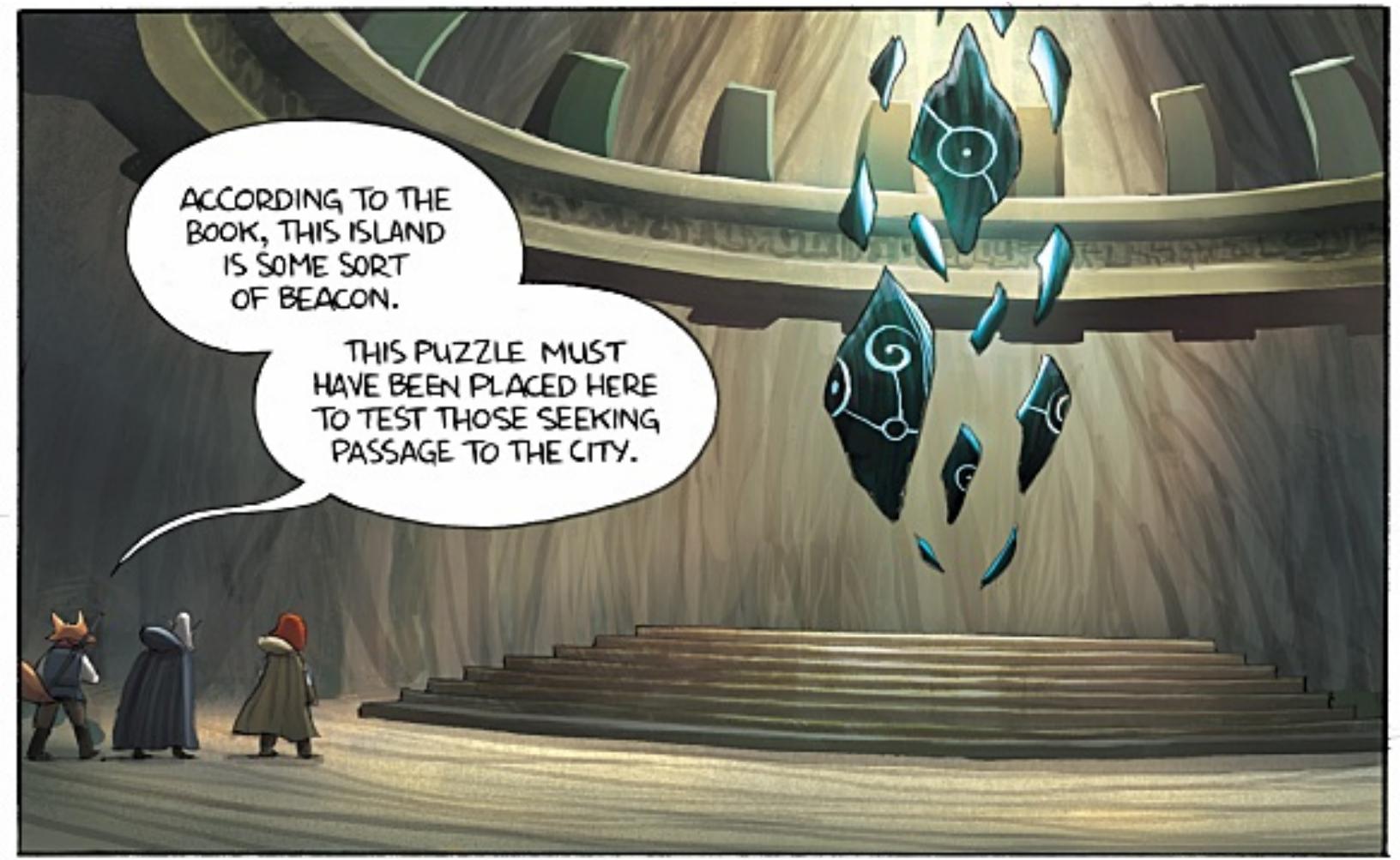










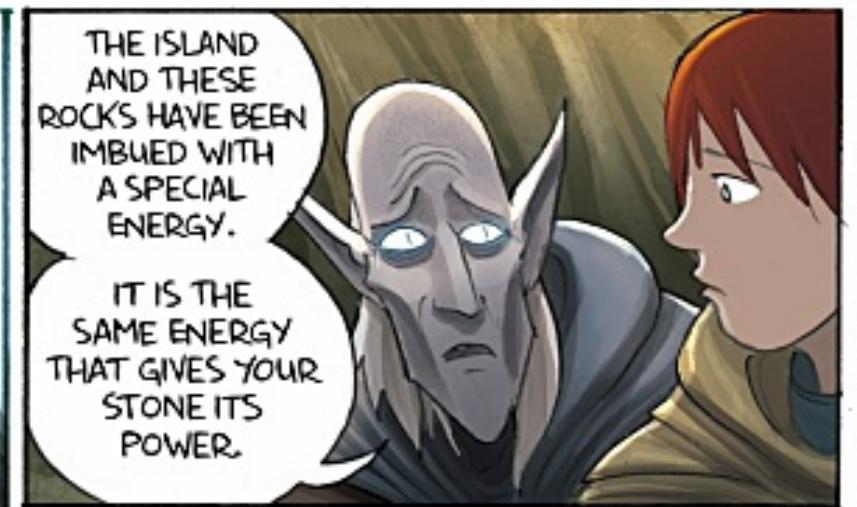


ACCORDING TO THE
BOOK, THIS ISLAND
IS SOME SORT
OF BEACON.

THIS PUZZLE MUST
HAVE BEEN PLACED HERE
TO TEST THOSE SEEKING
PASSAGE TO THE CITY.



HOW IS
ALL OF THIS
SUSPENDED
IN THE AIR?



THE ISLAND
AND THESE
ROCKS HAVE BEEN
IMBUED WITH
A SPECIAL
ENERGY.

IT IS THE
SAME ENERGY
THAT GIVES YOUR
STONE ITS
POWER.



EMILY.
TRELLIS.
LET'S BEGIN.

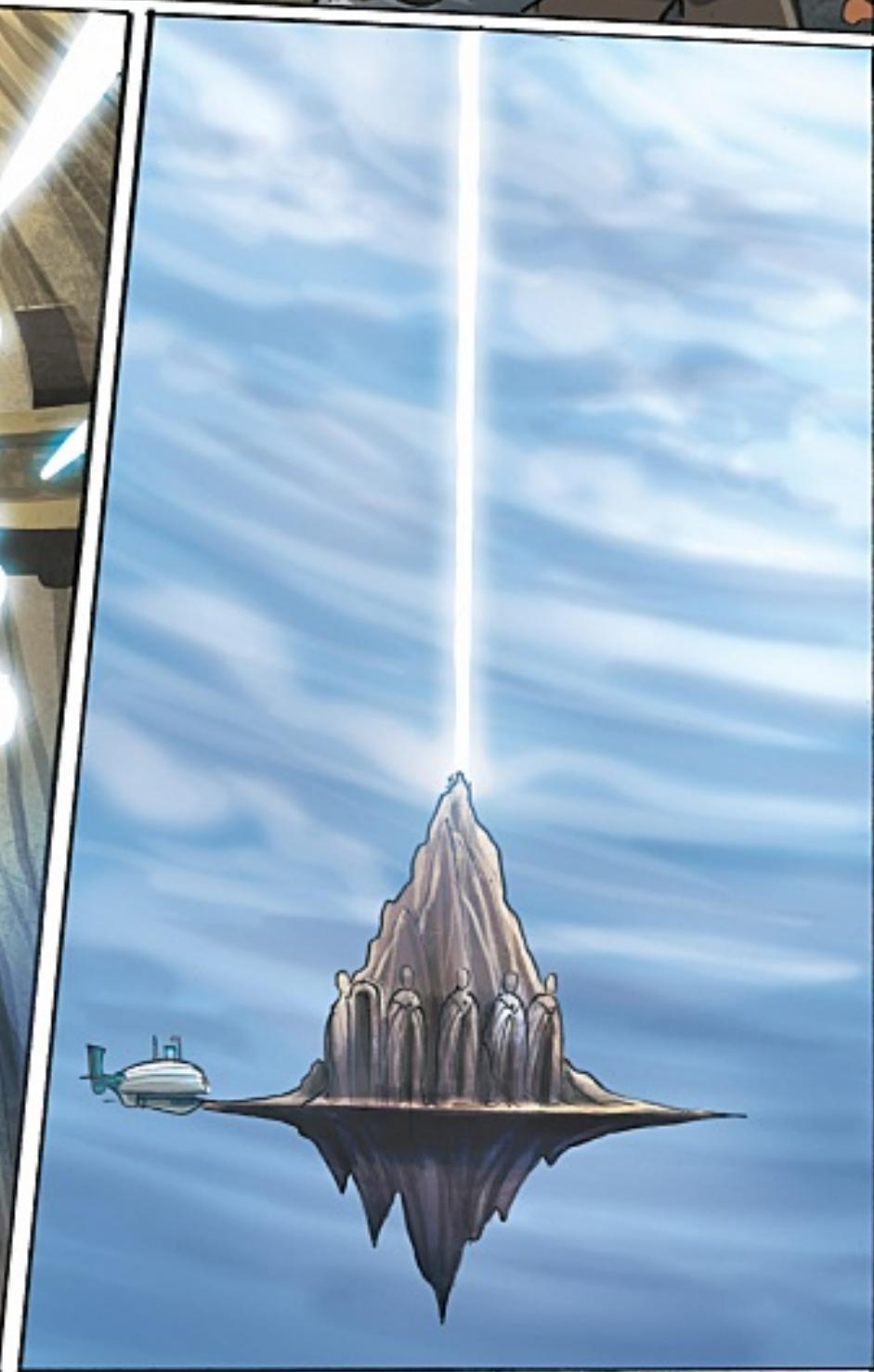








RUMBLE





WHAT
HAPPENS NOW,
CHIEF?



NOW
WE WAIT.



LOOKS LIKE
WE'RE LATE
FOR THE
PARTY.



MOM!



STAND BACK,
STONEKEEPER!



THIS GUN WAS
MADE TO KILL
YOUR KIND.

YOU DO NOT
WANT TO SEE
WHAT IT DOES
TO THE LESS
FORTUNATE.



PERSONALLY,
I'M MORE THAN
A LITTLE CURIOUS
TO SEE THE
RESULTS.



THAT
VOICE...



I HAVE INFORMED
THE ELF KING ABOUT
THE LOCATION OF THIS
BEACON TEMPLE, SO
IT IS ONLY A MATTER
OF TIME BEFORE THE
FORCES OF GULFEN
RAVAGE CIELIS ONCE
AGAIN.



HOW DOES IT FEEL
TO BE RESPONSIBLE
FOR THE DEMISE OF THE
GUARDIAN COUNCIL?



EMILY,
I CAN GET
YOU MAYBE TEN
SECONDS.



WHAT?

I CAN PROTECT
YOUR MOTHER
FOR A BRIEF
MOMENT, LEAVING
HIM OPEN FOR
AN ATTACK.

YOU'LL HAVE
ENOUGH TIME
TO STRIKE HIM
DOWN.



HOW DO YOU
INTEND TO DO
THAT?



JUST
FOLLOW MY
LEAD.



HA!
HA!



COME ON
DOWN, YOU
GUARDIAN
SCUM!

WE'LL BE
READY!



THAT'S
IT!
I KNOW
WHO YOU
ARE!



YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO DID
THIS TO ME!

YOU'RE THE
ONE WHO MADE
ME FORGET
EVERYTHING!



I WAS ONLY
FOLLOWING
YOUR FATHER'S
ORDERS, LUGER.



MY
FATHER?



FATHER?



LUGER'S
YOUR
BROTHER?



OH, LUGER,
YOU DIDN'T
KNOW?

I MUST HAVE
DONE A BETTER
JOB THAN I
REALIZED.



EMILY, NOW!

Fwoomp!

HUH?

OOF!

NOW
STAY BACK!

EMILY
AND I WILL
TAKE CARE
OF THIS.

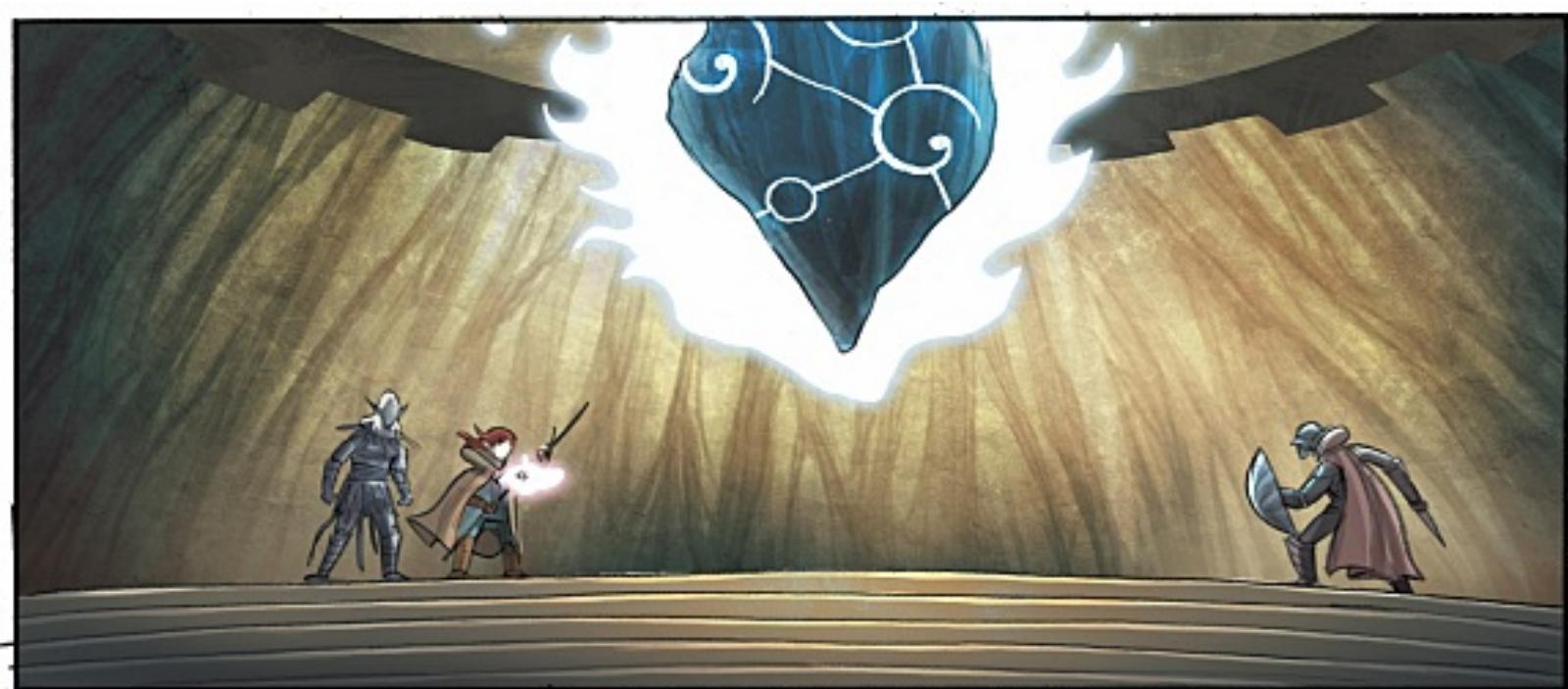
IS THAT
ALL YOU'VE
GOT, STONE-
KEEPER?

SHWIK!

KLAK
KLAK
KLAK

KLAK
KLAK

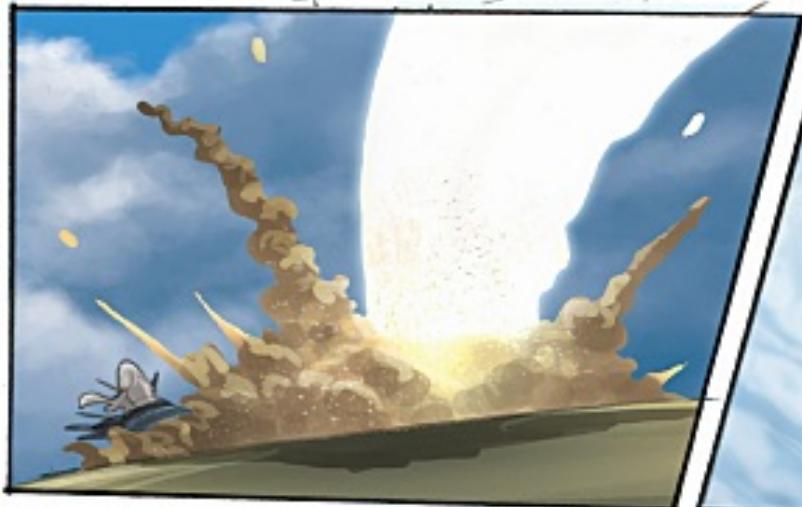
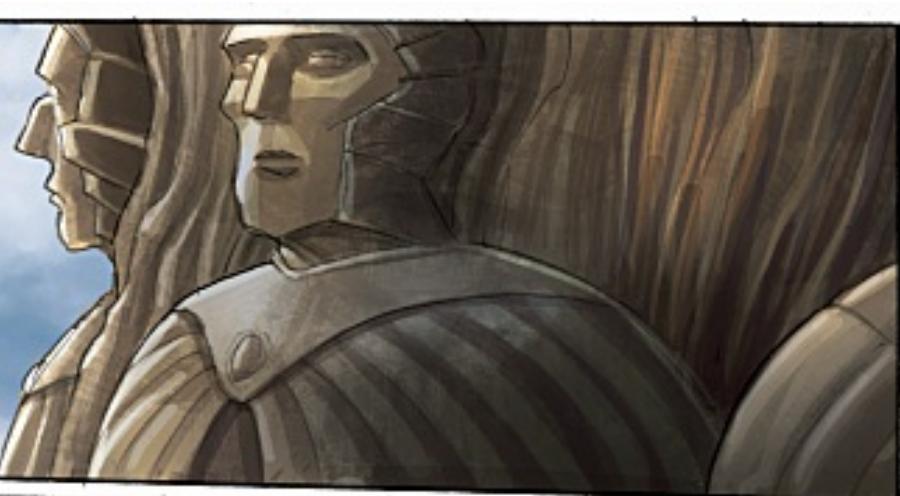
KSHING!

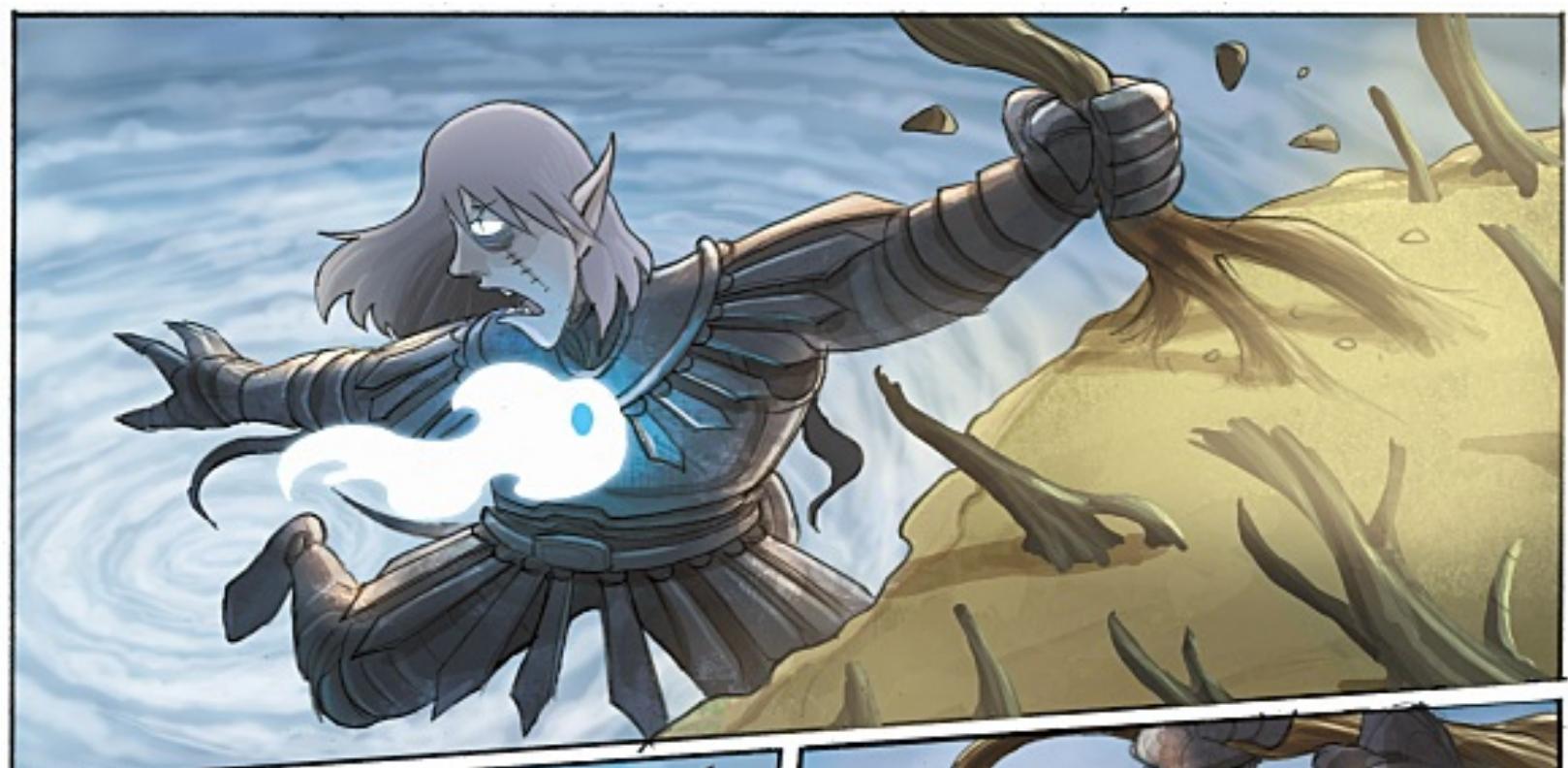




I'LL WORK
MY WAY
AROUND IT.









IT IS TIME
TO END THIS
LITTLE DANCE,
EMILY.

NOW
FOCUS.



YOU STONEKEEPERS
MAKE ME SICK.

YOUR SPECIAL
POWERS WERE SIMPLY
GIVEN TO YOU.

YOU NEVER HAD
TO EARN THEM.



AND YET, YOU
HAVE DIFFICULTY
DEFEATING A
SIMPLE ELF.

DESPITE YOUR
POWERS, YOU ARE
EASILY OUTWITTED.

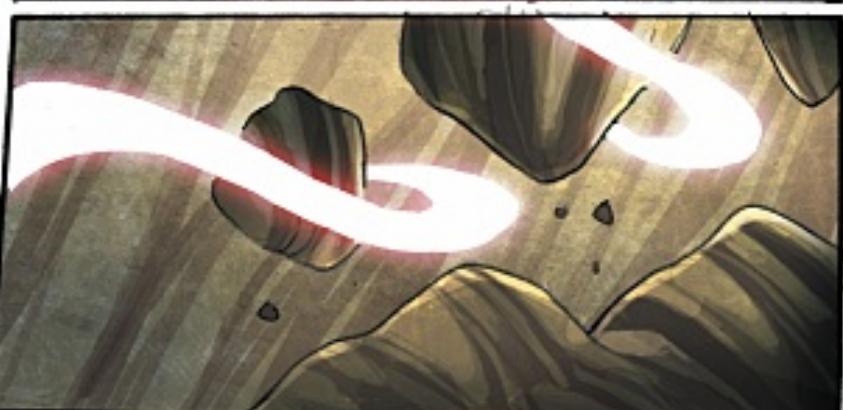
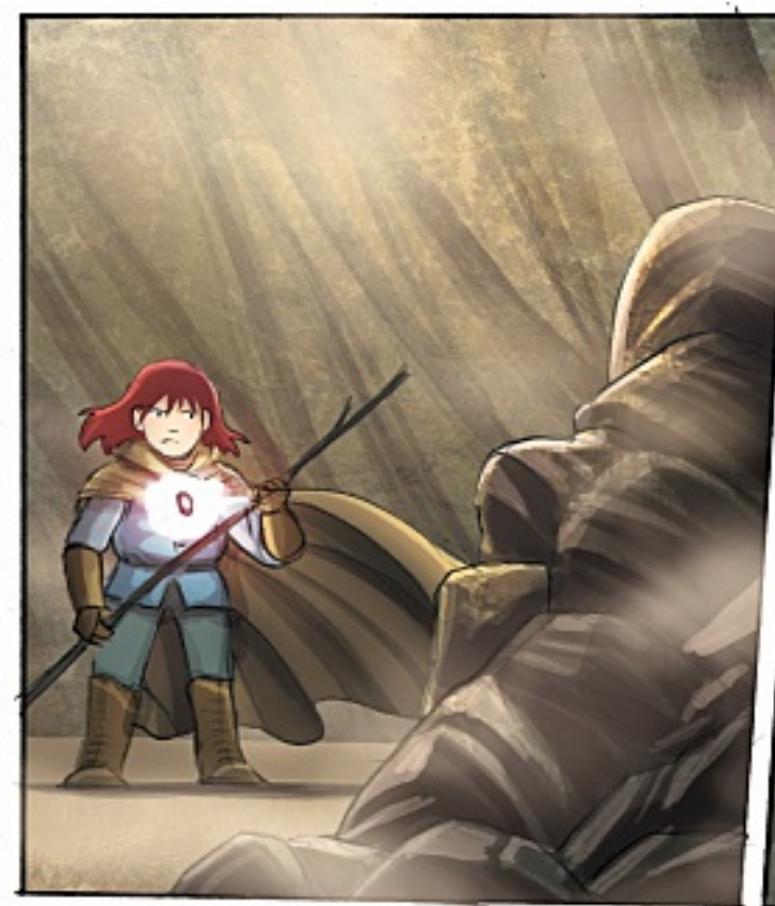


LET'S SHOW HIM
HOW WE MATCH
WITS. YOU KNOW
WHAT TO DO.















CLAP CLAP CLAP



CLAP CLAP!

A VERY
IMPRESSIVE
SHOWING,
STONEKEEPER.



WHO ARE
YOU?



MY NAME IS
MAX GRIFFIN.

I WILL BE
YOUR ESCORT
TO CIELIS.



THIS STONE-KEEPER MAY VERY WELL BE A NEW MEMBER OF THE COUNCIL.

I WANT YOU TO TREAT HER ORDERS AS IF THEY WERE MY OWN.

YES, SIR.

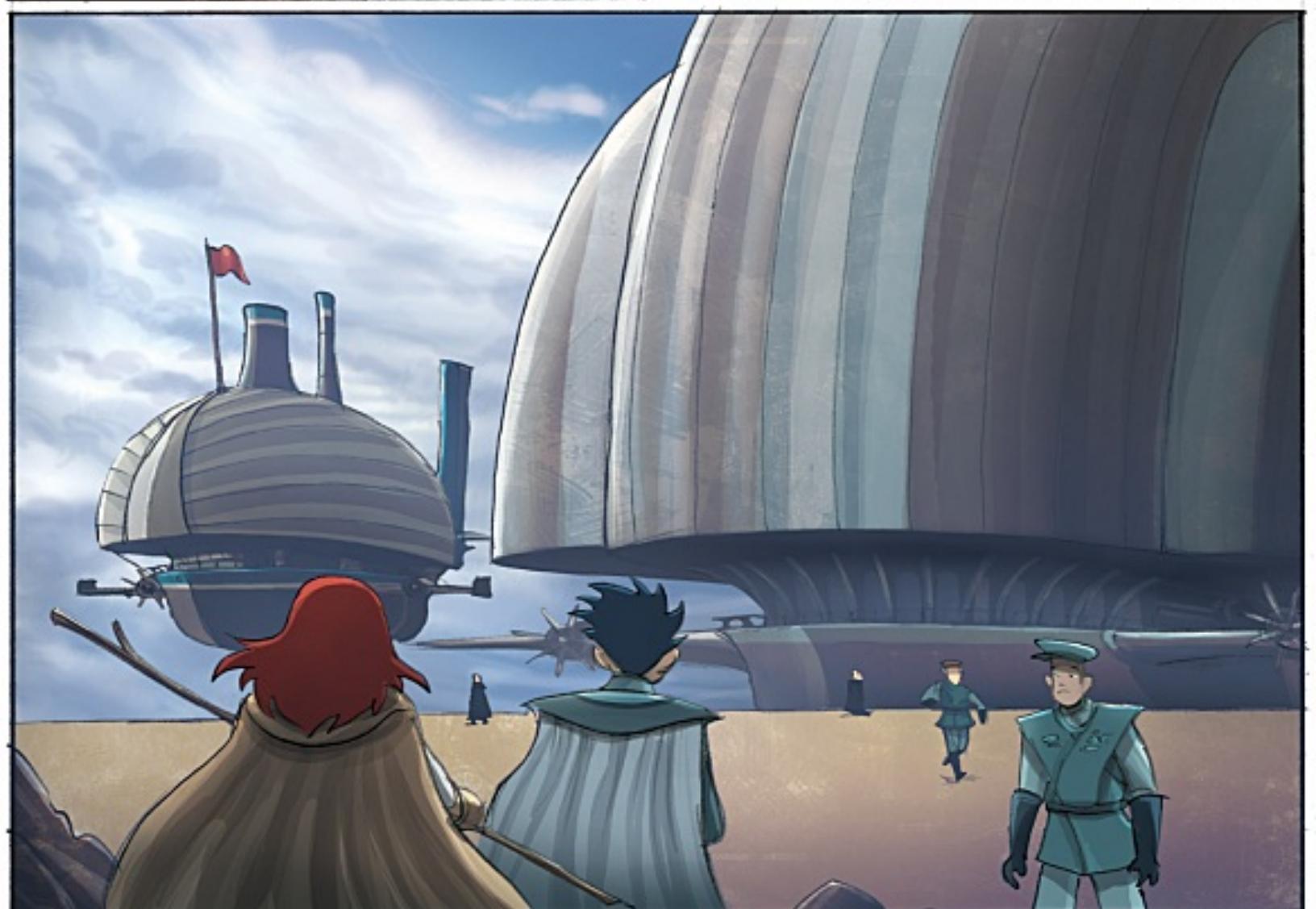
NOW THIS ISN'T JUST A FREE PASS, OLD MAN.

UNDERSTAND THAT I WILL BE WATCHING OVER THE BOTH OF YOU LIKE A HAWK.

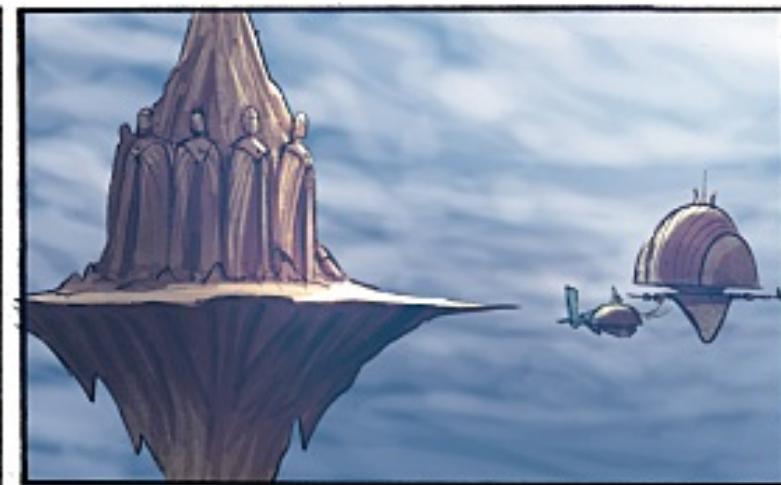
AND YOU MUST BE THE SOLDIER, LEON REDBEARD.

YES, SIR.











THEY WILL
TEACH YOU
THINGS THAT
I CANNOT.

EMILY!



MAX HERE HAS
BEEN TELLING ME
ALL ABOUT THE
SCHOOL.

I THINK IT'S
EXCITING!



SCHOOL?

IT IS WHY
YOU'RE HERE,
ISN'T IT?

WHY WE'RE
BOTH HERE.



WE WILL BE
TRAINED AND
TESTED TO SEE
WHO AMONG US
WILL MAKE UP THE
NEW GUARDIAN
COUNCIL.



WE'LL BE
ENTERING THE
JUMP GATE
MOMENTARILY.



THANK YOU,
DUNCAN.

WHAT ABOUT
THE CURRENT
COUNCIL?

WHAT
WILL HAPPEN
TO THEM?

THEY ARE
DYING,
EMILY.

AND THEY
ARE LOOKING
FOR THEIR
SUCCESSORS.

THE BEST OF
US WILL BE LEFT
TO GOVERN
ALLEDIA.

THE COUNCIL
BELIEVES THAT,
LIKE ME, YOU HAVE
THE POTENTIAL TO
TAKE A LEADERSHIP
ROLE.

CAN YOU IMAGINE
WHAT HAVING THAT
KIND OF POWER
MUST FEEL LIKE?





WE'RE GOING TO
MAKE OURSELVES
SOME POSTCARDS!



END OF BOOK THREE

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ANTHONY WU

SPECIAL THANKS

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Kazu Kibuishi is the creator of the #1 *New York Times* bestselling Amulet series. He is also the founder and editor of the acclaimed Flight anthologies, and is the creator of Copper, a collection of his popular webcomic that features an adventuresome boy-and-dog pair. Most recently, Kazu reimagined and illustrated the covers of the 15th anniversary paperback editions of the Harry Potter series. He lives and works in Seattle, Washington, with his wife, Amy Kim Kibuishi, and their children.

Visit Kazu online at www.boltcity.com.

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